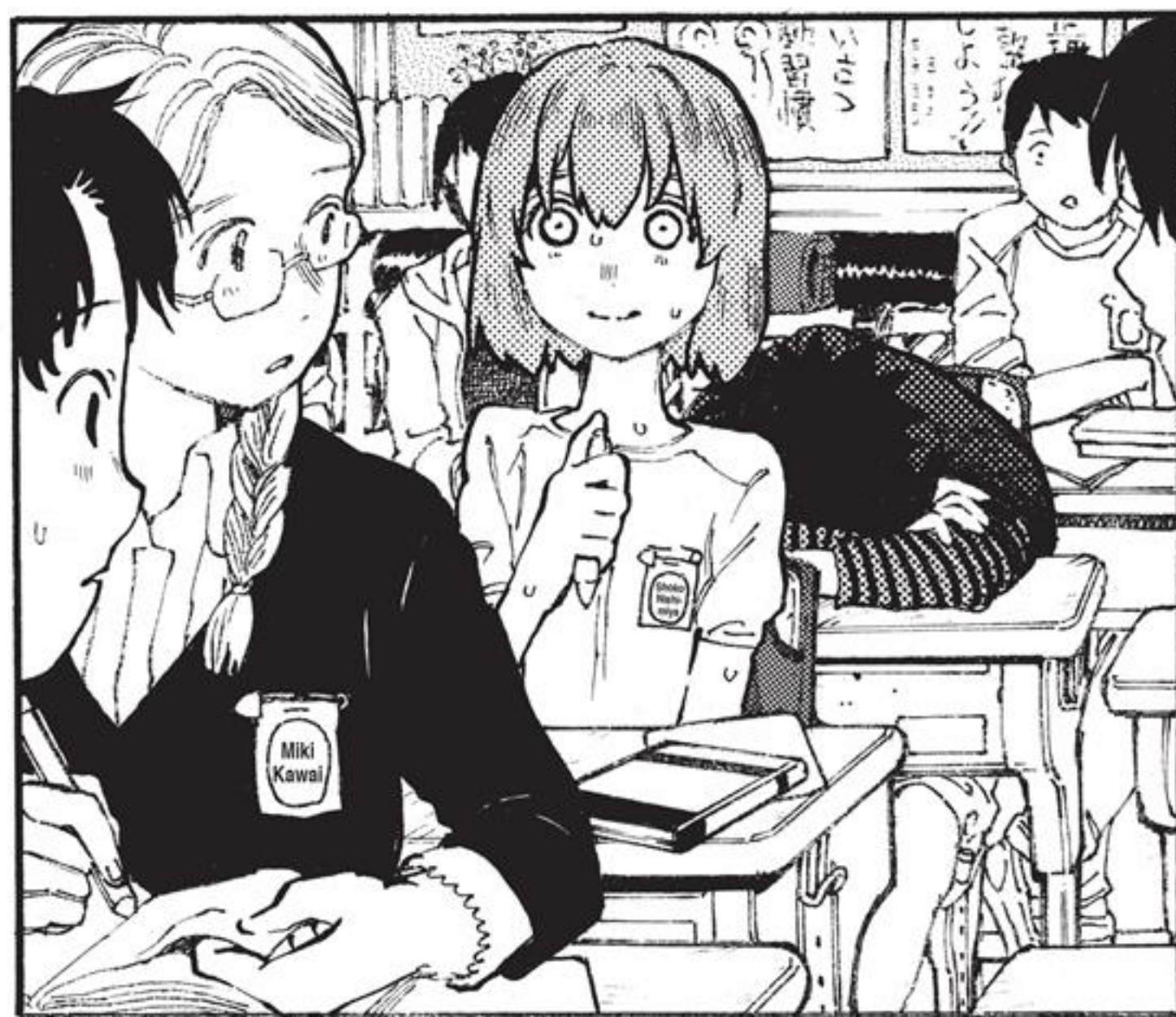


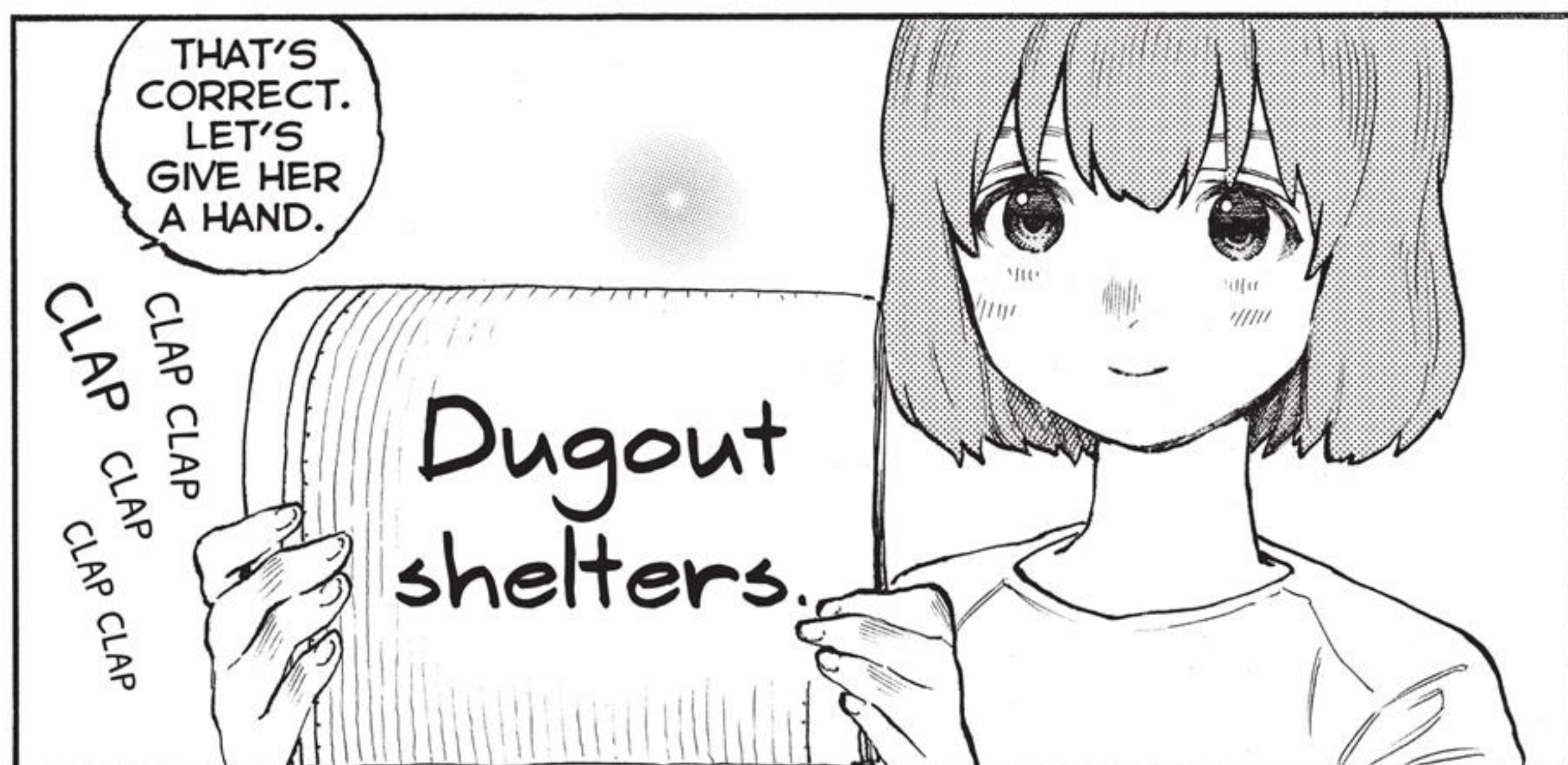
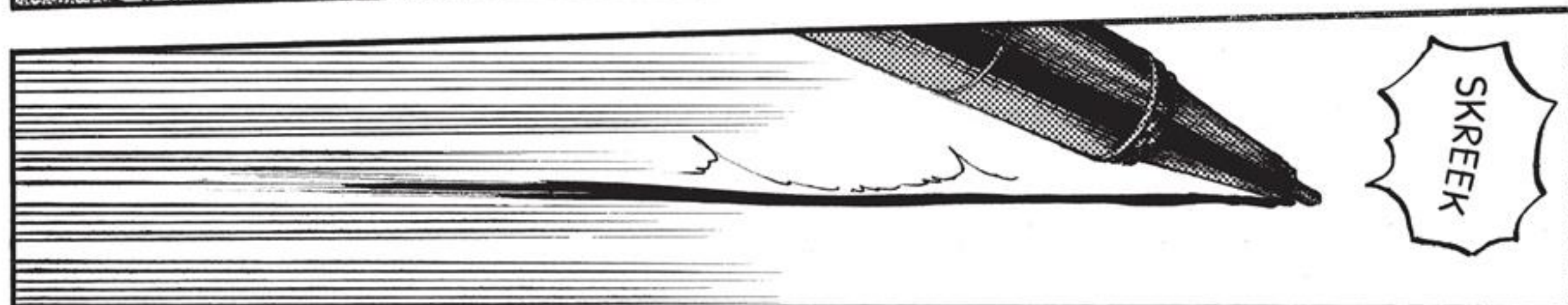


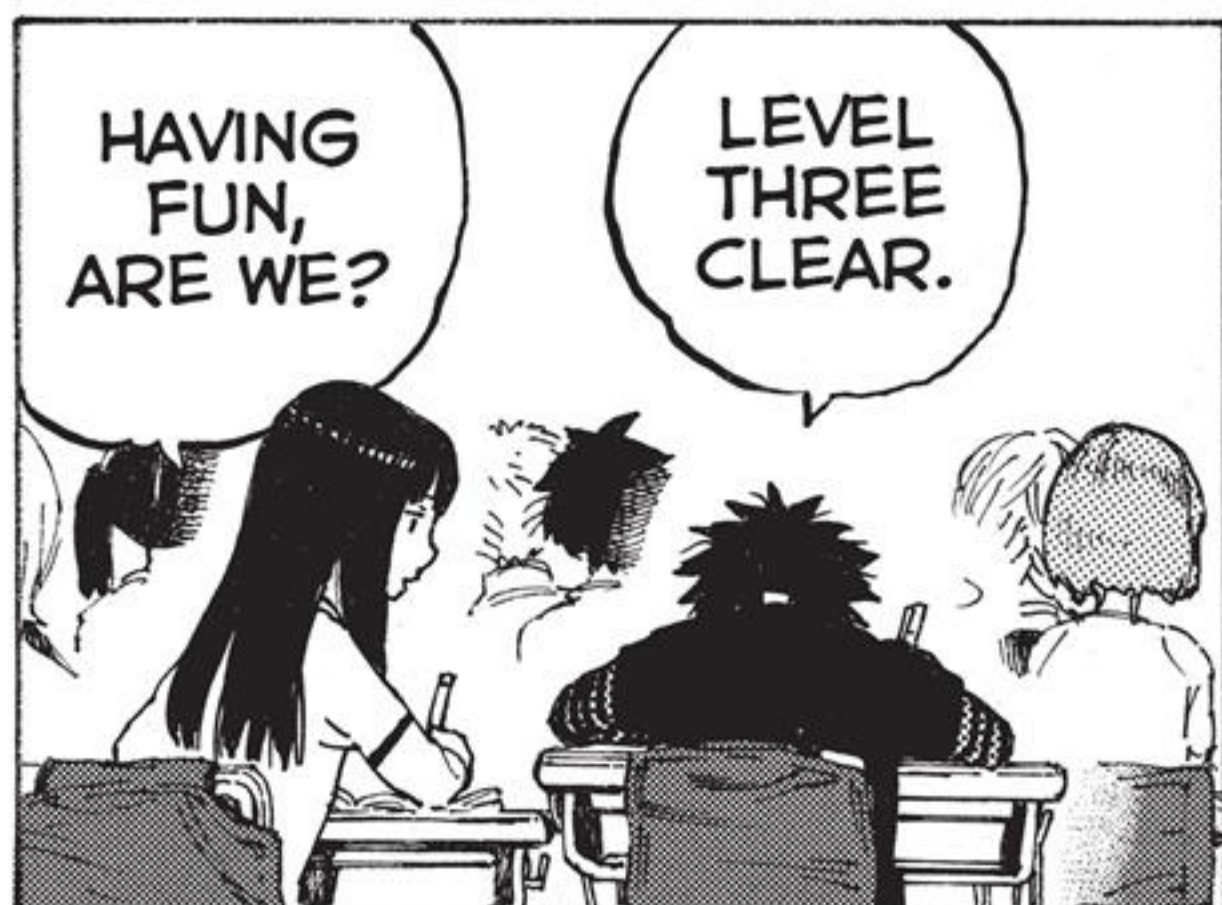
**YOU
CAN'T
HEAR?**



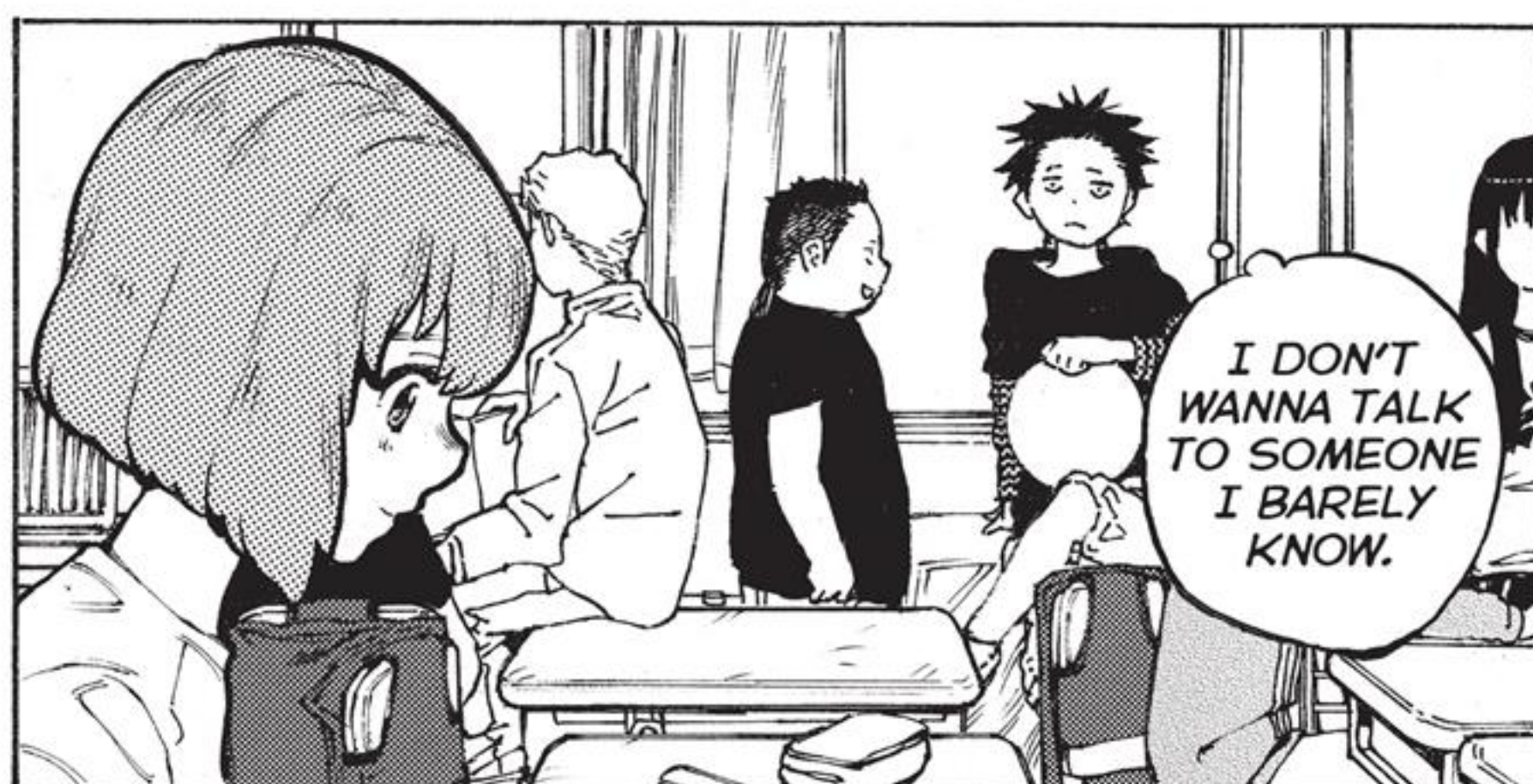
CHAPTER 2: JUST ONE OF THOSE THINGS













TEP



HABA...
THAT'S NOT
A NICE WAY
TO PUT IT.

HEY,
DO YOU
SPEAK
JAPANESE,
SHOKO?

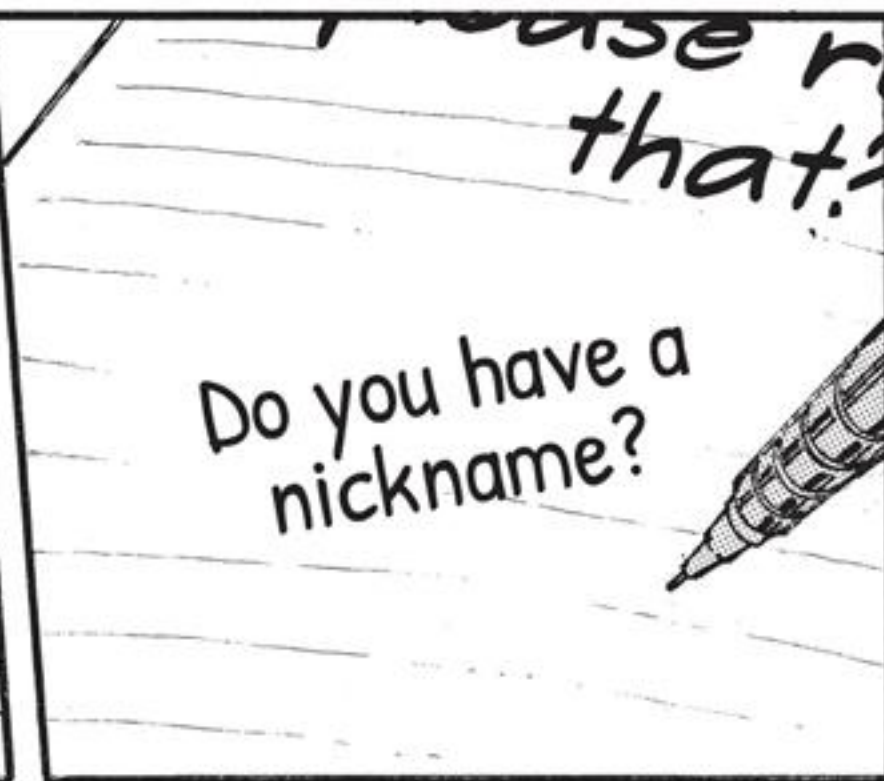
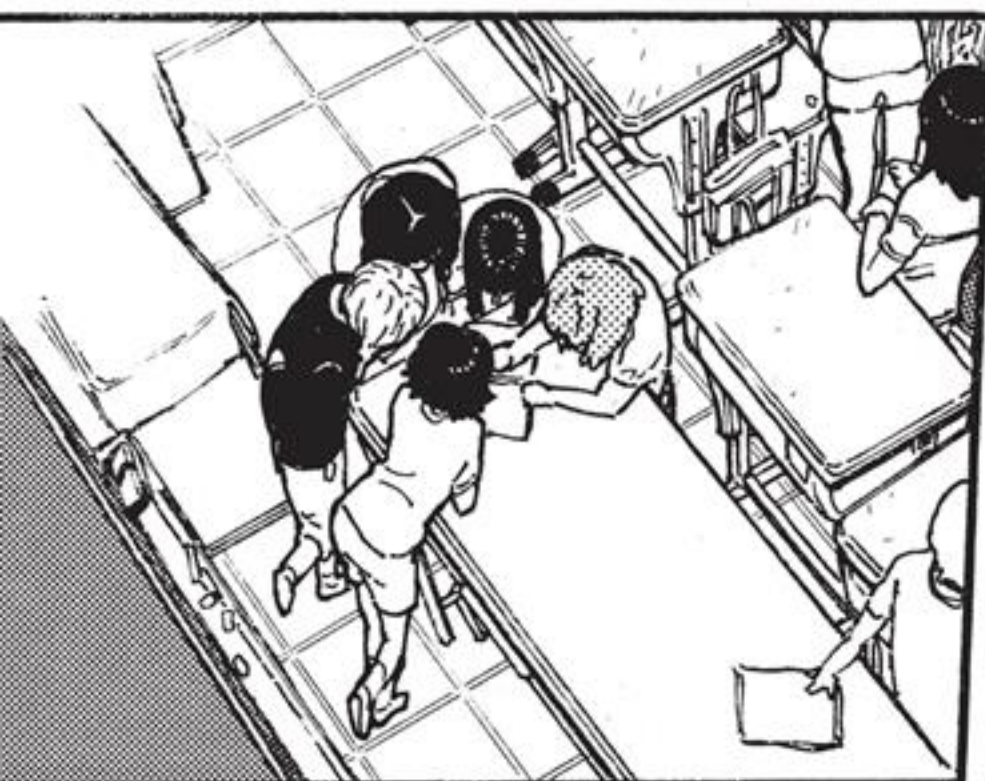


Could you
please repeat
that?



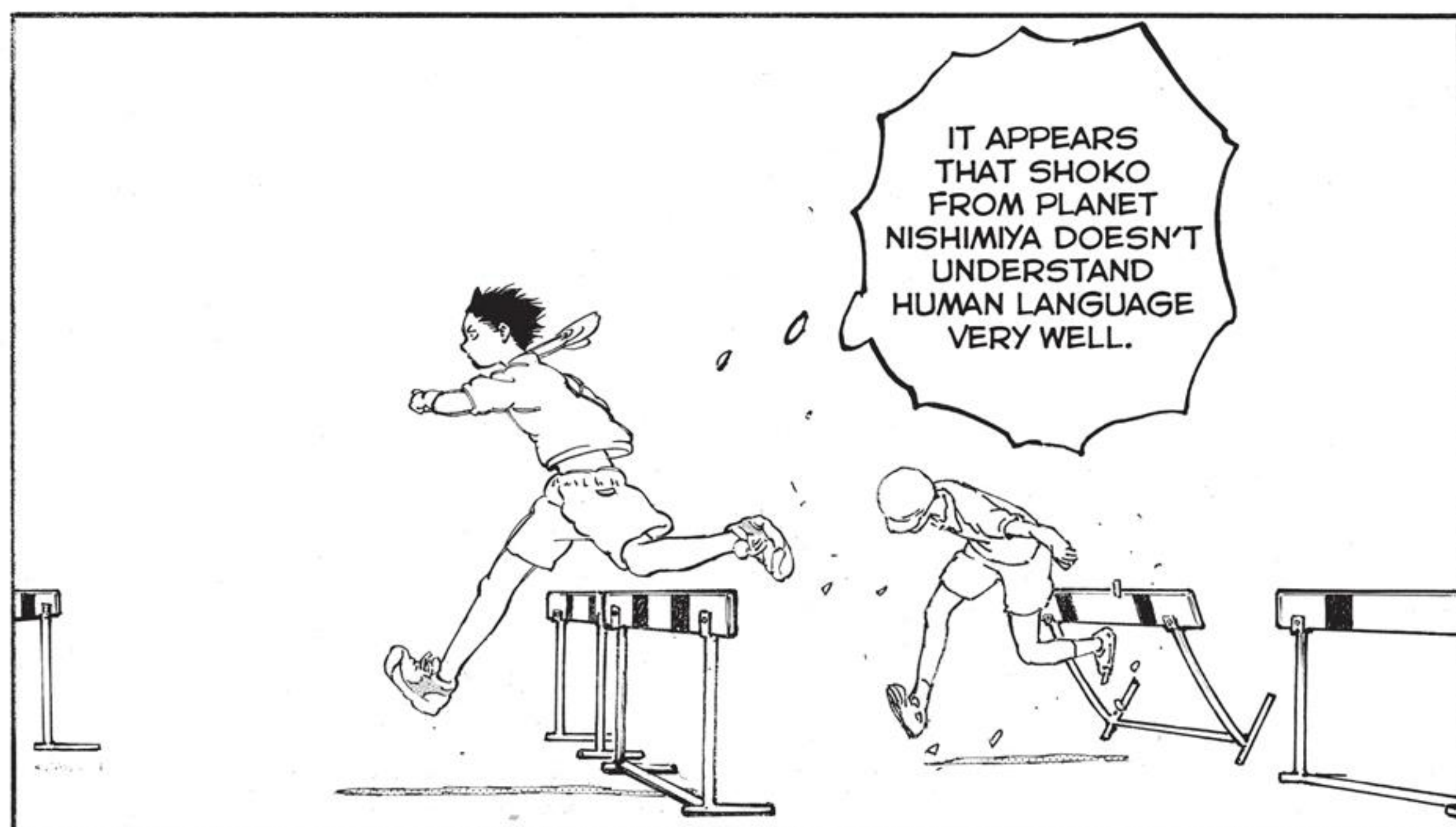
OH...

AHA...



Do you have a
nickname?

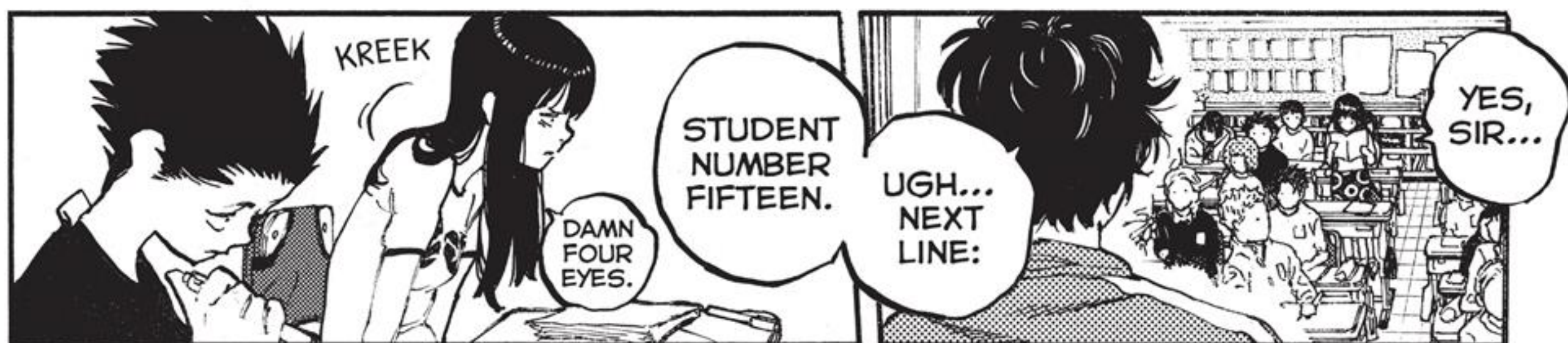






HOW DO YOU
EXPECT TO
GET THE
FEELINGS
ACROSS LIKE
THAT?

LOUD-
ER,
UENO!



KREEK

STUDENT
NUMBER
FIFTEEN.

DAMN
FOUR
EYES.

UGH...
NEXT
LINE:

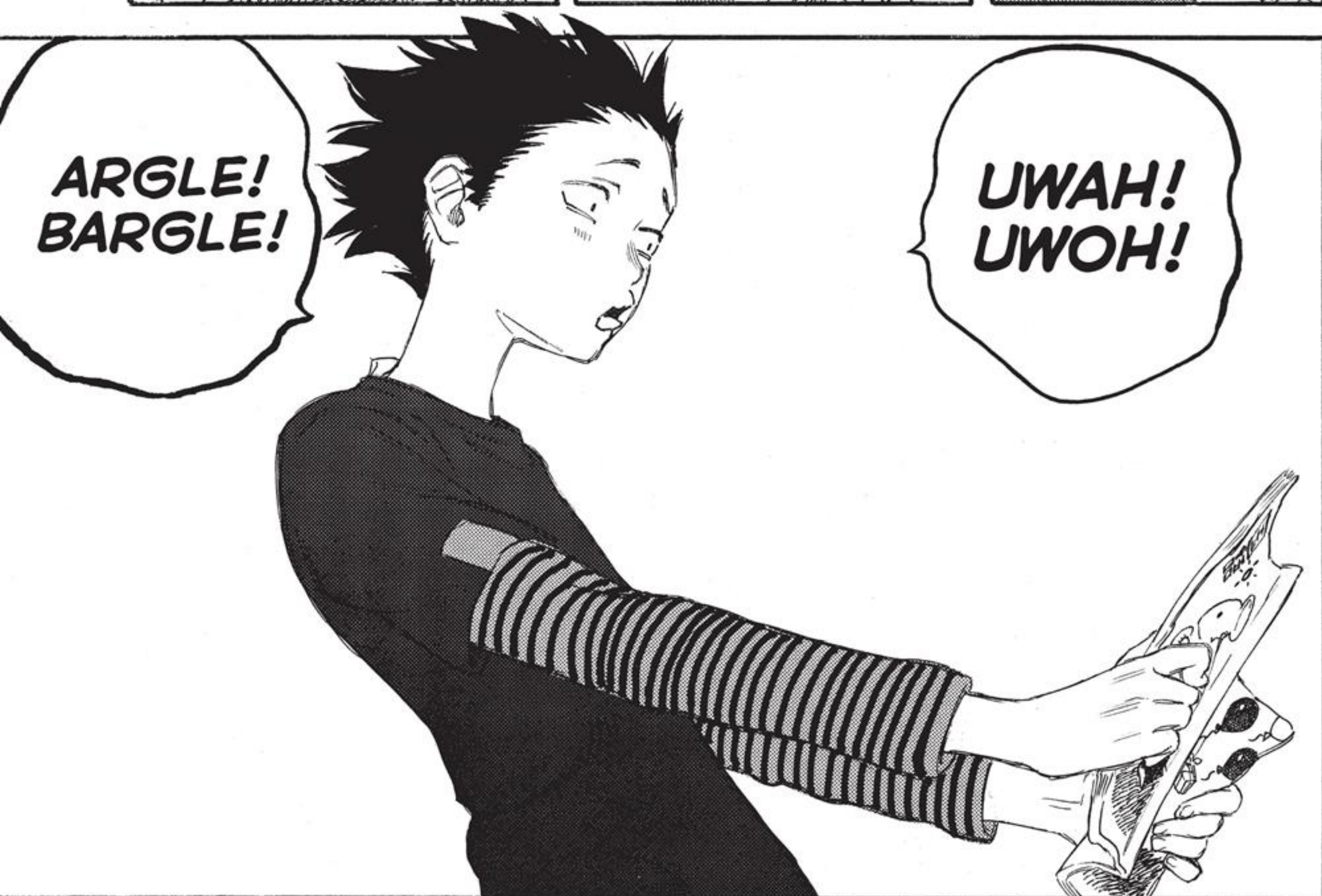
YES,
SIR...



...NOO
SEE
GRAMBA
AGAIN.

ANH
DOH
I
GAN'T
WAID
...







YOU
HEAR
ME?

I KNOW
THE WAY NISHI-
MIYA SPEAKS
IS UNUSUAL,
BUT THAT'S NO
REASON TO
MOCK HER.



WE'RE
HAVING A
CONVER-
SATION
ABOUT
MORALITY.

SHUT UP
AND
LISTEN TO
WHAT I
TELL YOU.



I DON'T THINK
IT'S UNUSUAL.
SHE'S JUST
SPEAKING
HER MOTHER
TONGUE.



WHAT KIND
OF PARENT
RAISES AN
IDIOT LIKE
YOU?

I GUESS
THAT
EXPLAINS
WHY YOU ACT
LIKE THIS.

YOU'RE IN
THE SIXTH
GRADE AND
YOU DON'T
KNOW WHAT
MORALITY
IS?

WHAT-
ALITY?

HAVE
TO DEAL
WITH...

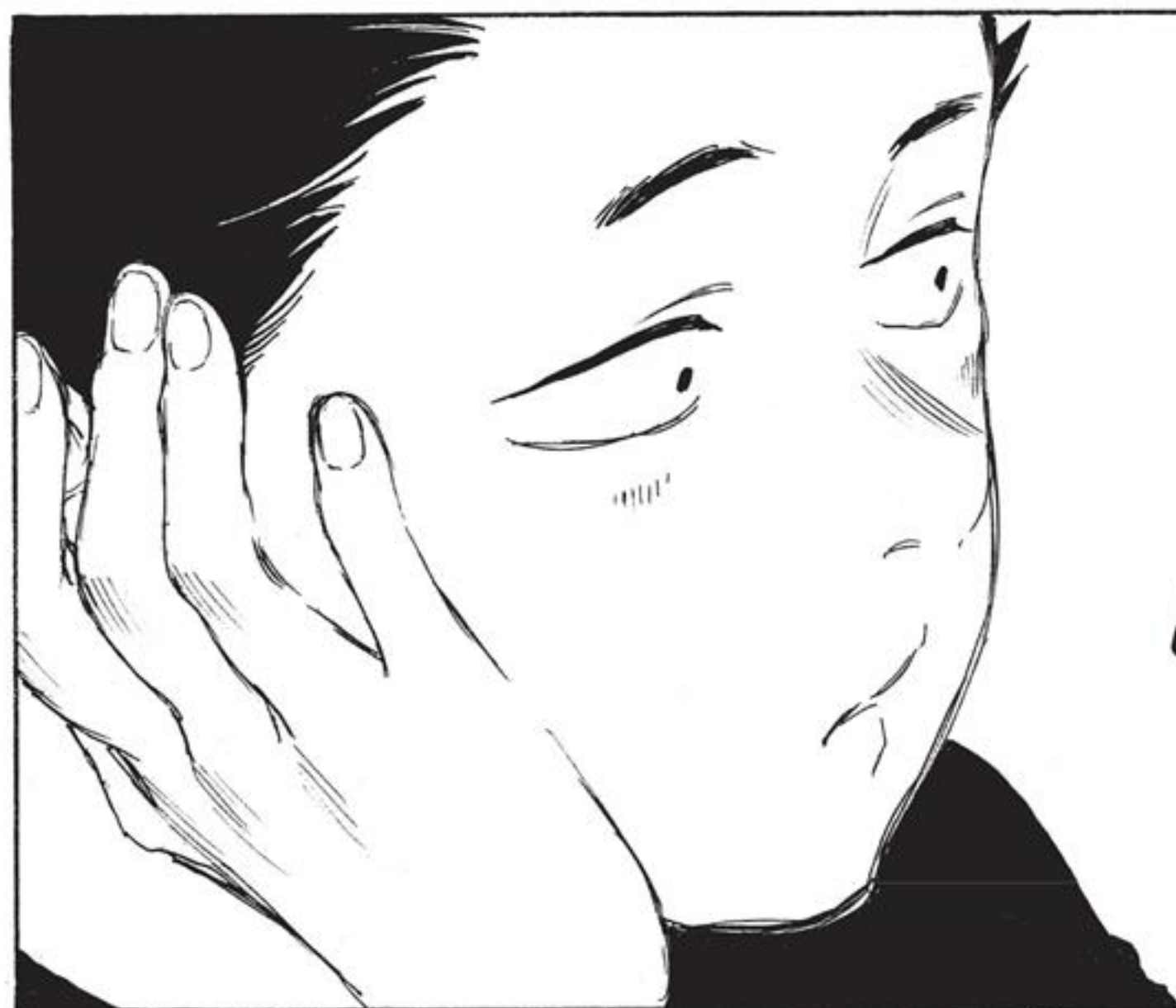
THINGS
YOU...

THERE ARE
SOME THINGS
IN THIS
WORLD THAT
YOU JUST
HAVE TO
DEAL WITH!

ANY-
WAY...



Do you understand
what Sensei just said?
It would be a big help if you
could tell me.



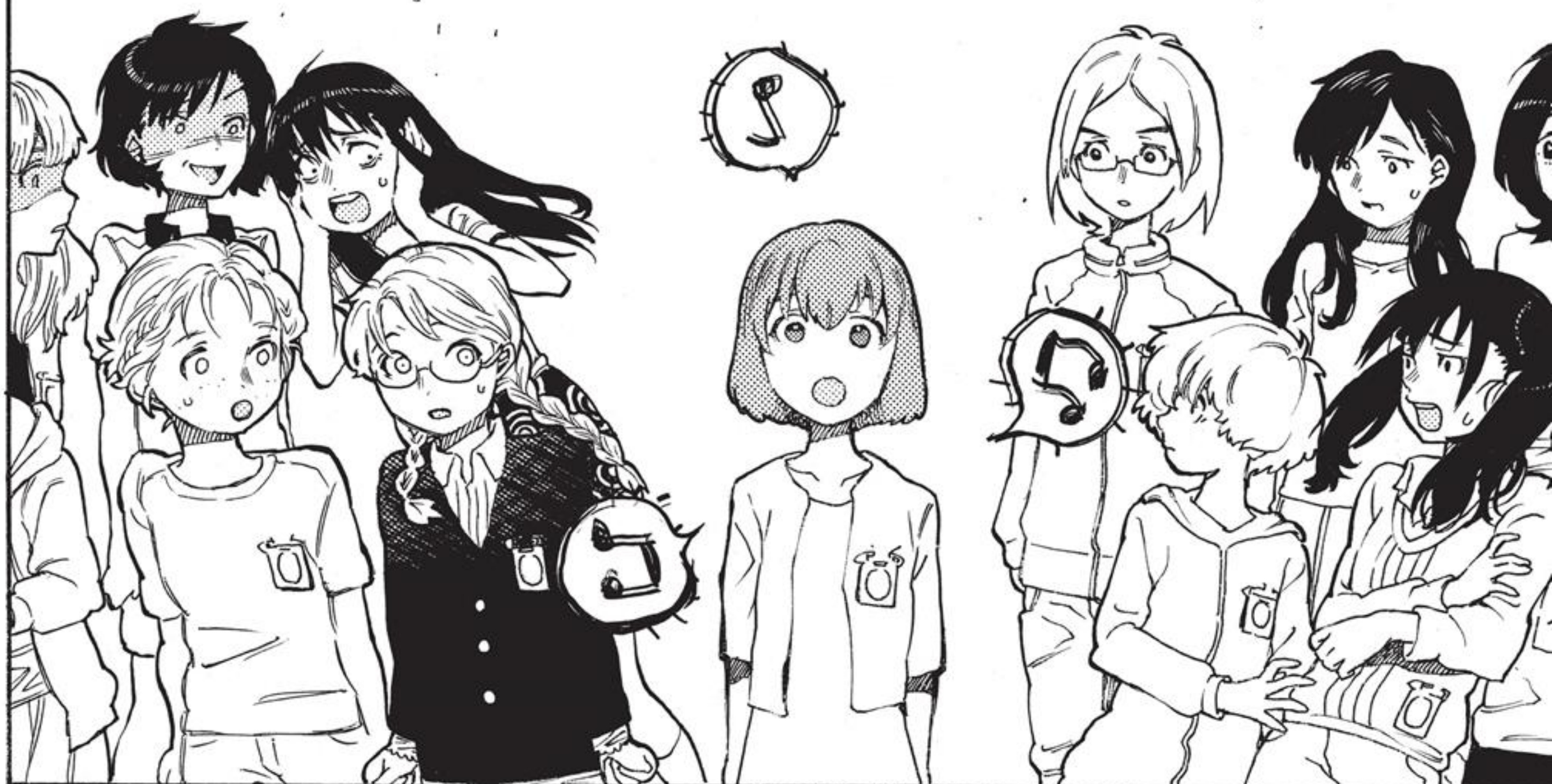
**THINGS
YOU JUST
HAVE TO
DEAL WITH,
HUH?**

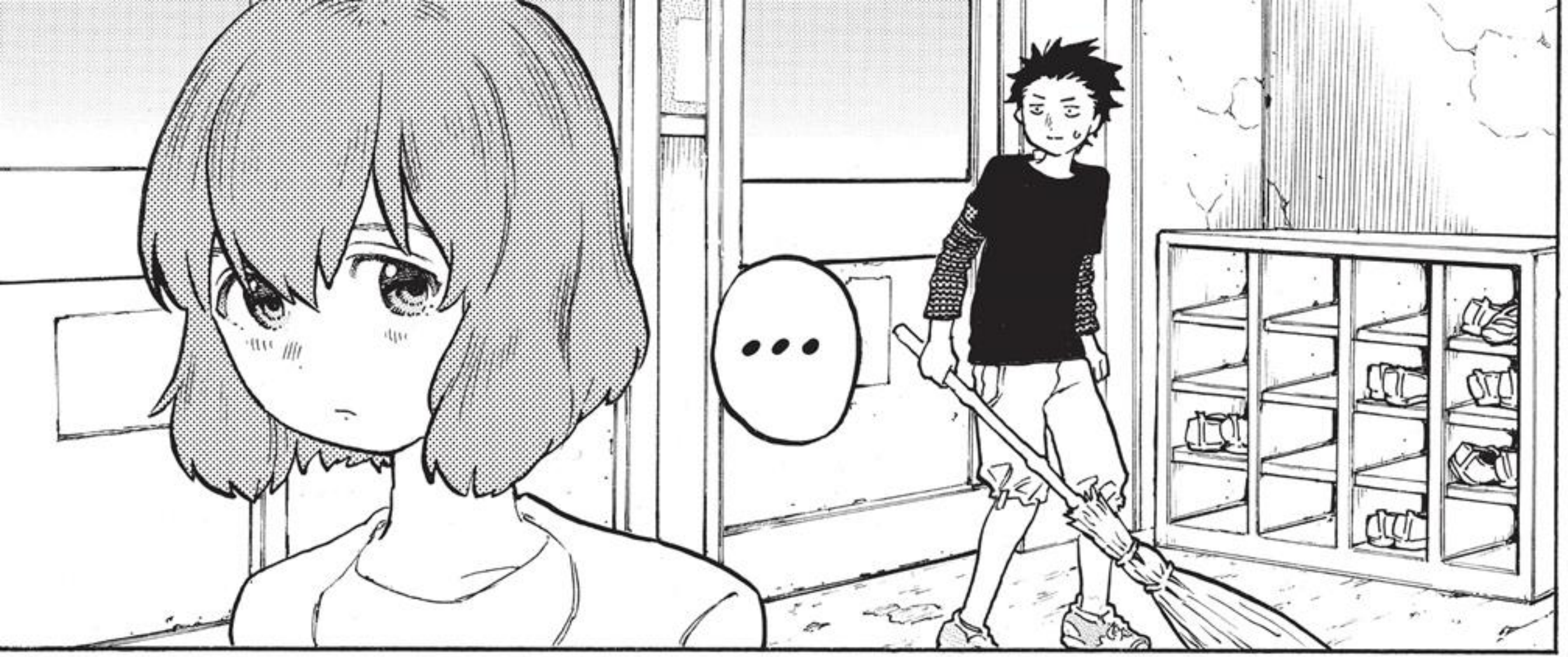


What is everyone
writing down now?



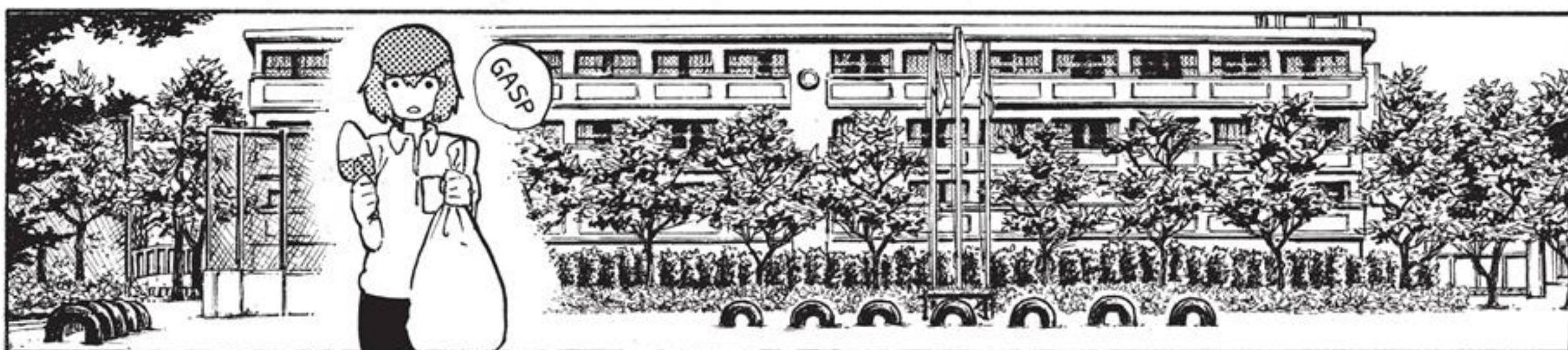
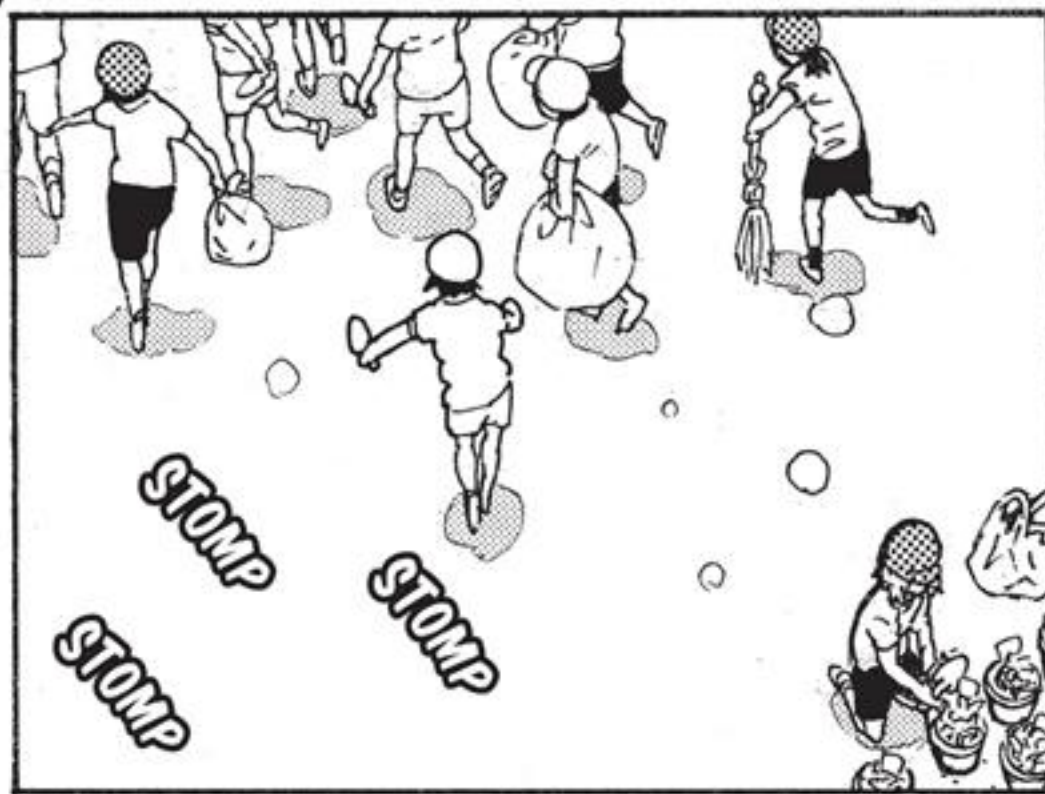






You're tone deaf,
so just pretend like
you're singing!



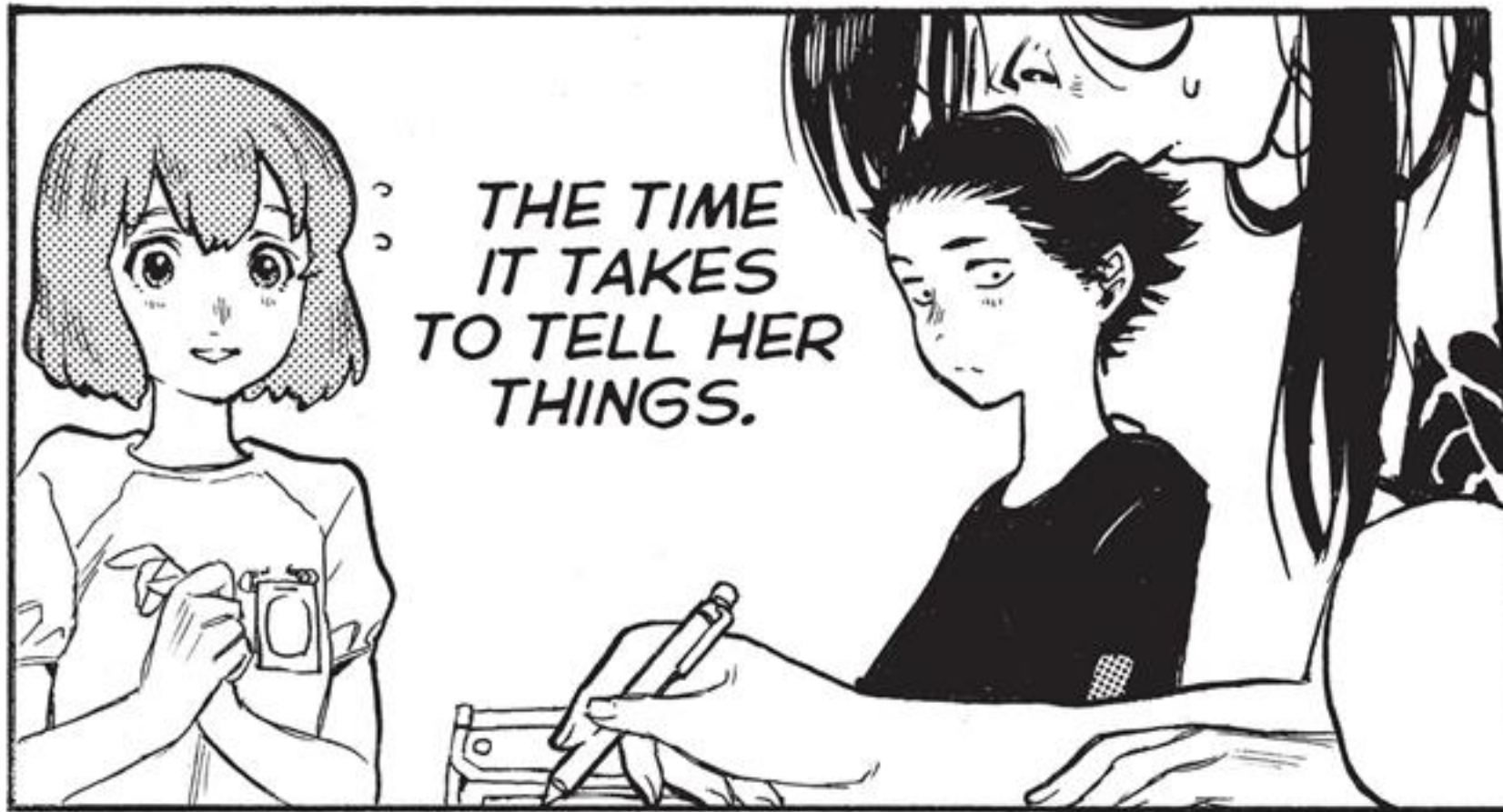


THIS IS PROBABLY ANOTHER OF THOSE THINGS WE "JUST HAVE TO DEAL WITH."





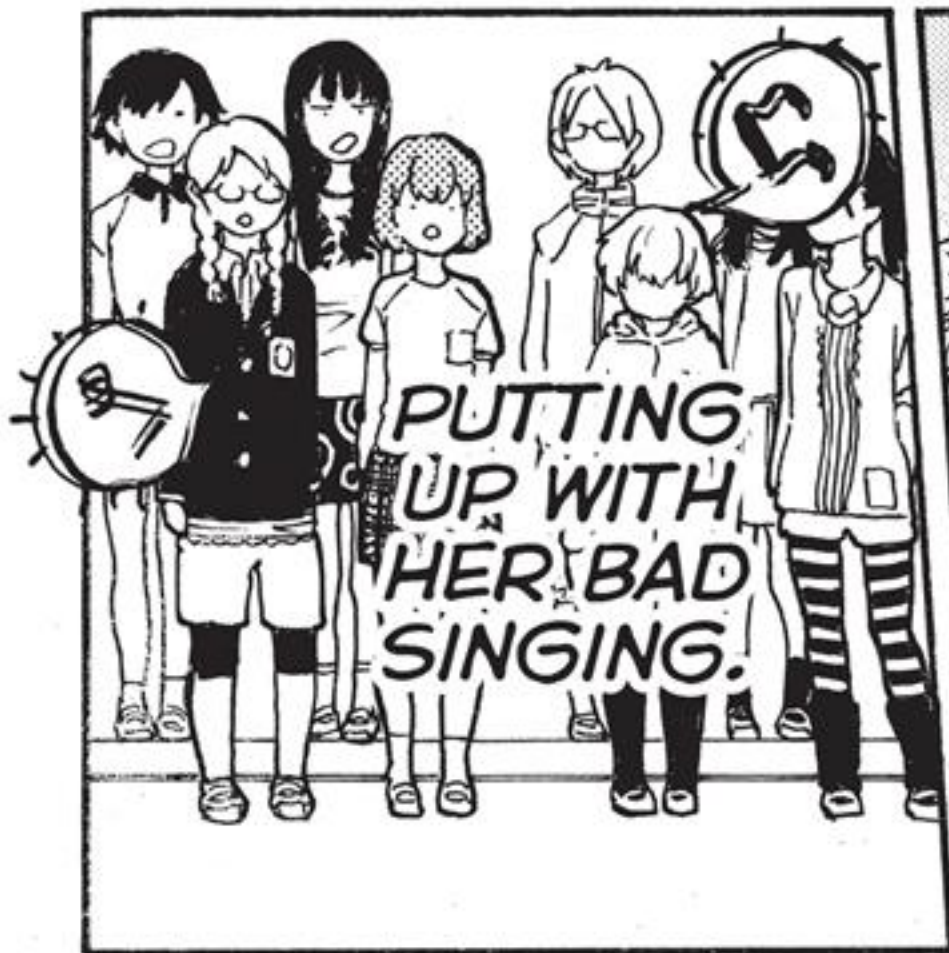
**BUT
SHOULD
WE?**



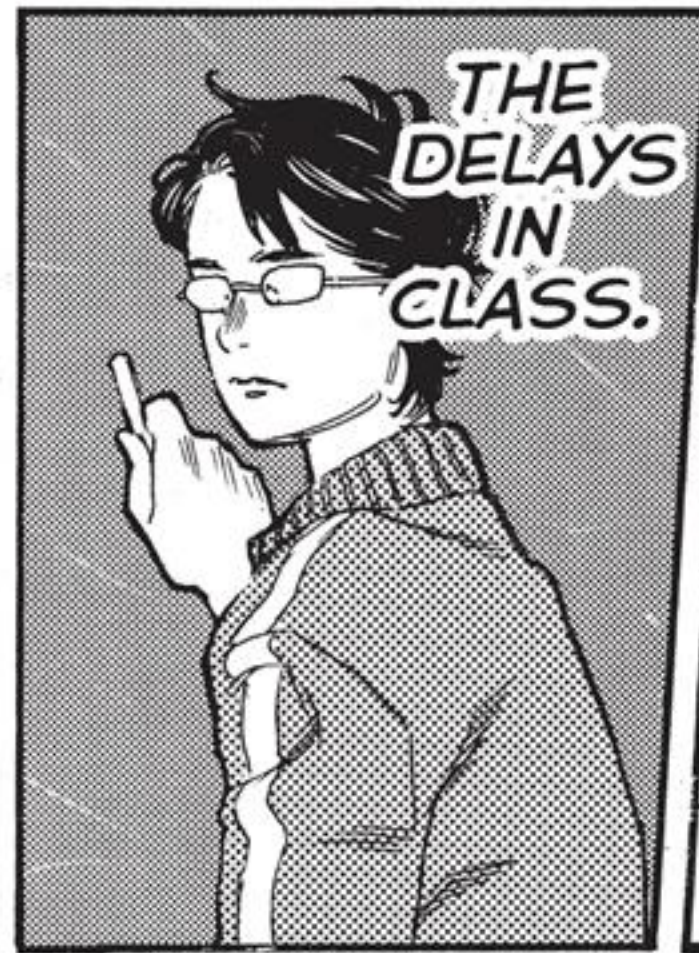
**THE TIME
IT TAKES
TO TELL HER
THINGS.**



...erschool, he
wants us to think
meaning for our cho
song and place it o
desk tomorrow.



**PUTTING
UP WITH
HER BAD
SINGING.**



**THE
DELAYS
IN
CLASS.**



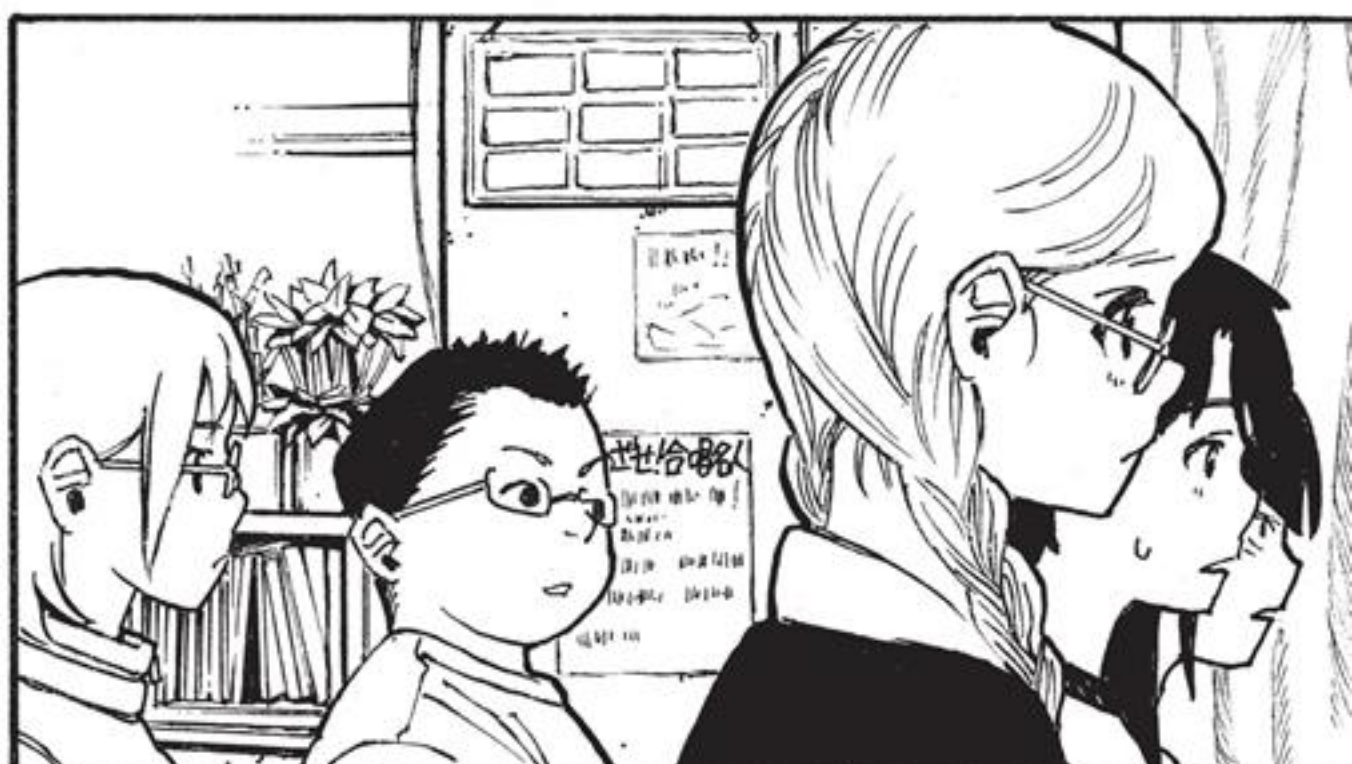
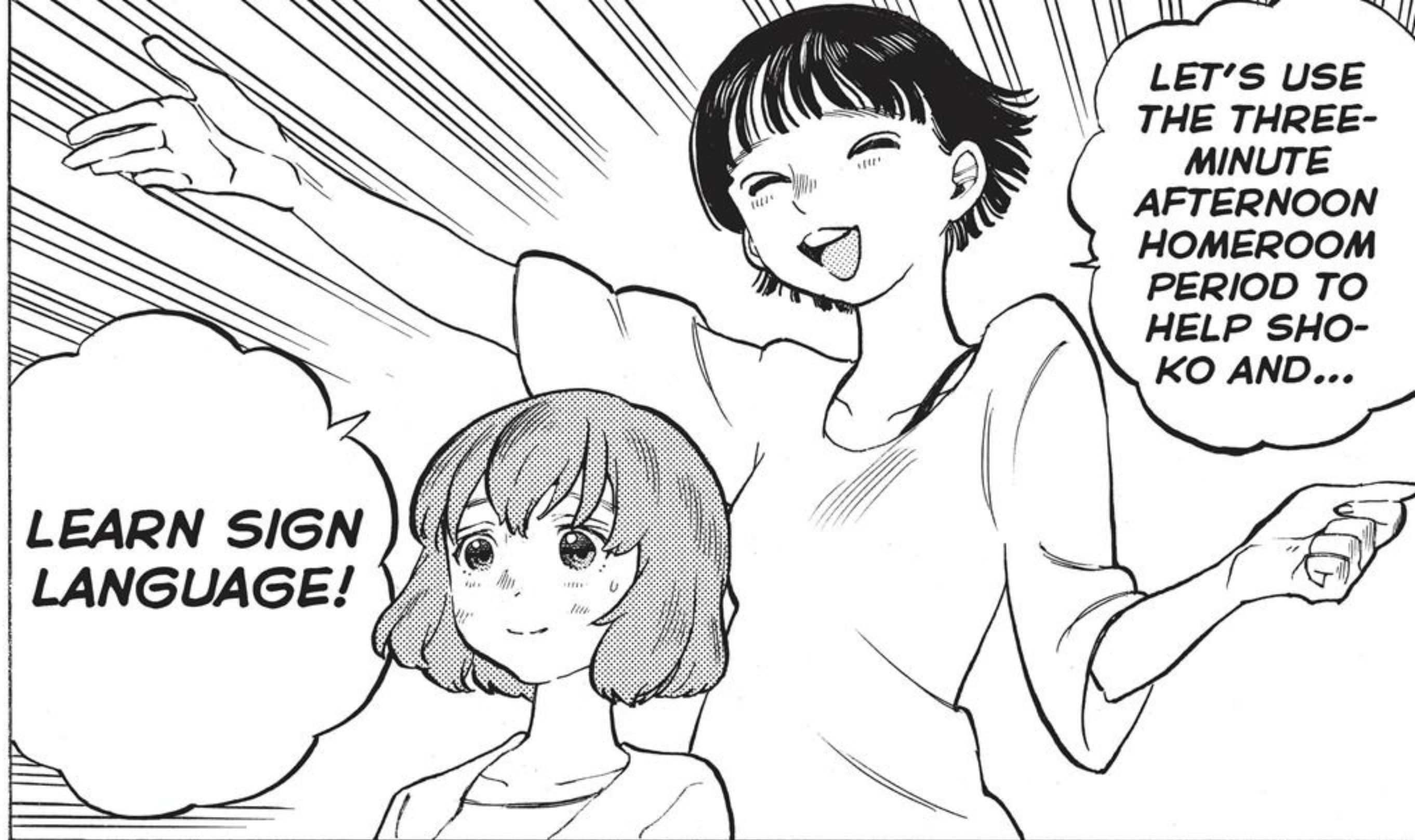
possible, could
you please face
this direction when
you speak?



**SO I
HAVE A
PROPOSAL
FOR
EVERYONE.**

**THAT'S
JUST WHAT
IT'S LIKE
WHEN YOU
CAN'T HEAR.**

**IT'S ONE
OF THOSE
THINGS YOU
JUST HAVE
TO DEAL
WITH.**



JUST LIKE IT HELPS AN ENGLISH PERSON IF YOU SPEAK ENGLISH, IT HELPS PEOPLE WHO CANNOT HEAR IF YOU USE SIGN LANGUAGE.

?

THAT'S OBVIOUS, RIGHT?

CAN'T WE JUST WRITE IN HER NOTE-BOOK?

...HELP NISHIMIYA ?

HOW WILL US LEARNING SIGN LANGUAGE ...

WELL, IT'S EASIER FOR **ME** TO COMMUNICATE THROUGH WRITING.

...IT'S EASIER FOR SHOKO TO COMMUNICATE THROUGH SIGN LANGUAGE, AND SHE CAN GET HER FEELINGS ACROSS MUCH BETTER THAT WAY AS WELL?

WELL, DID YOU KNOW...





...I'LL
LEARN
SIGN LAN-
GUAGE.

UM...



WHOA,
SHE'S
GOT
GUTS!

ooo!

INSTEAD OF
THREE MINUTES
A DAY, I'LL STUDY
AN HOUR AND A
HALF A DAY SO NO
ONE ELSE HAS TO.

I'M
MIYOKO
SAHARA.

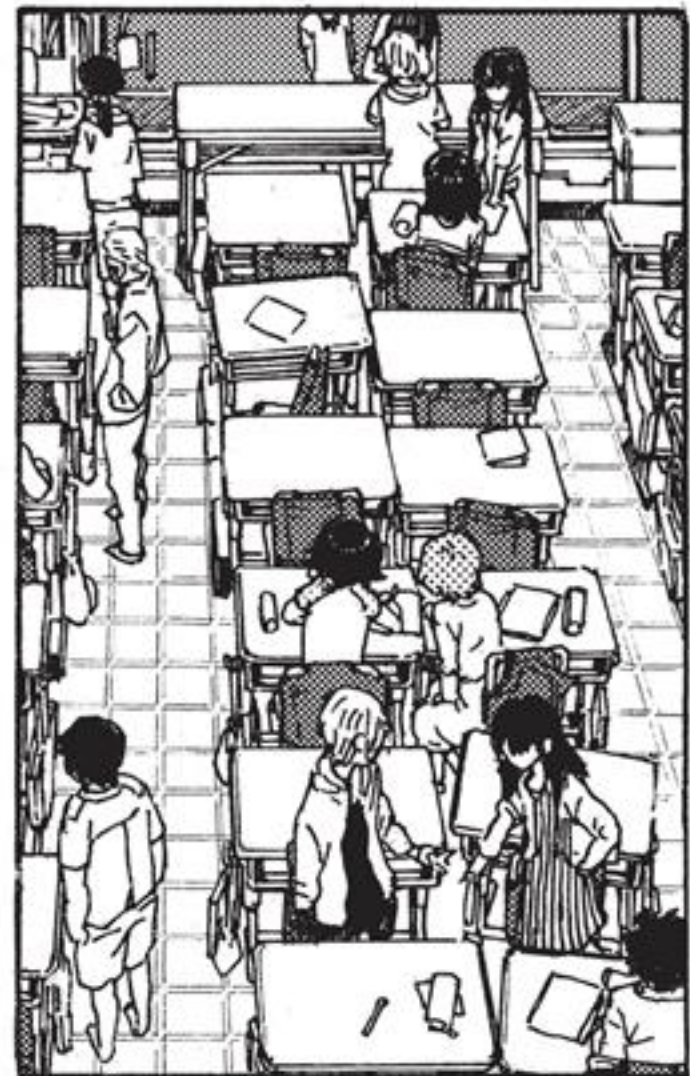
I'M SORRY,
WHAT'S
YOUR
NAME...?

IF HELPING
SHOKO IS
THE GOAL,
THEN I THINK
ONE PERSON
WILL BE
PLENTY...

DURING
CLASSES
AND
BETWEEN
THEM...

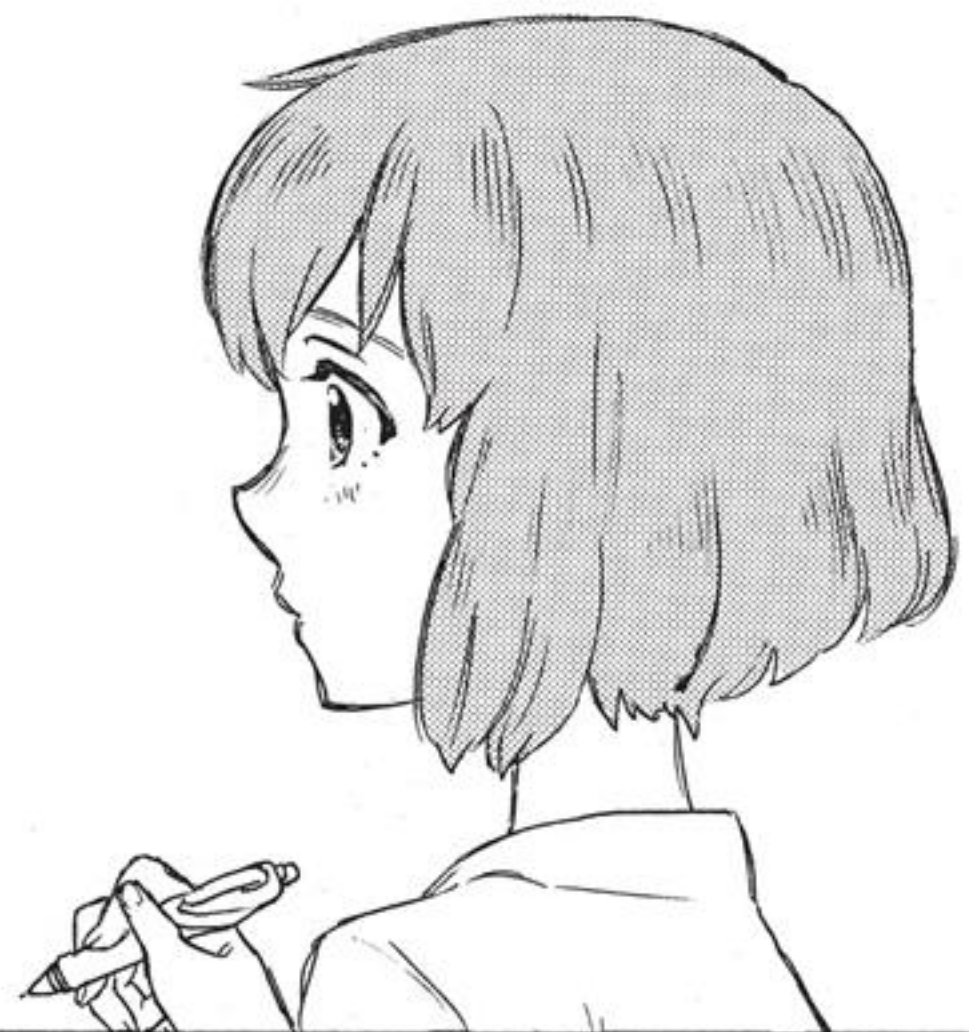
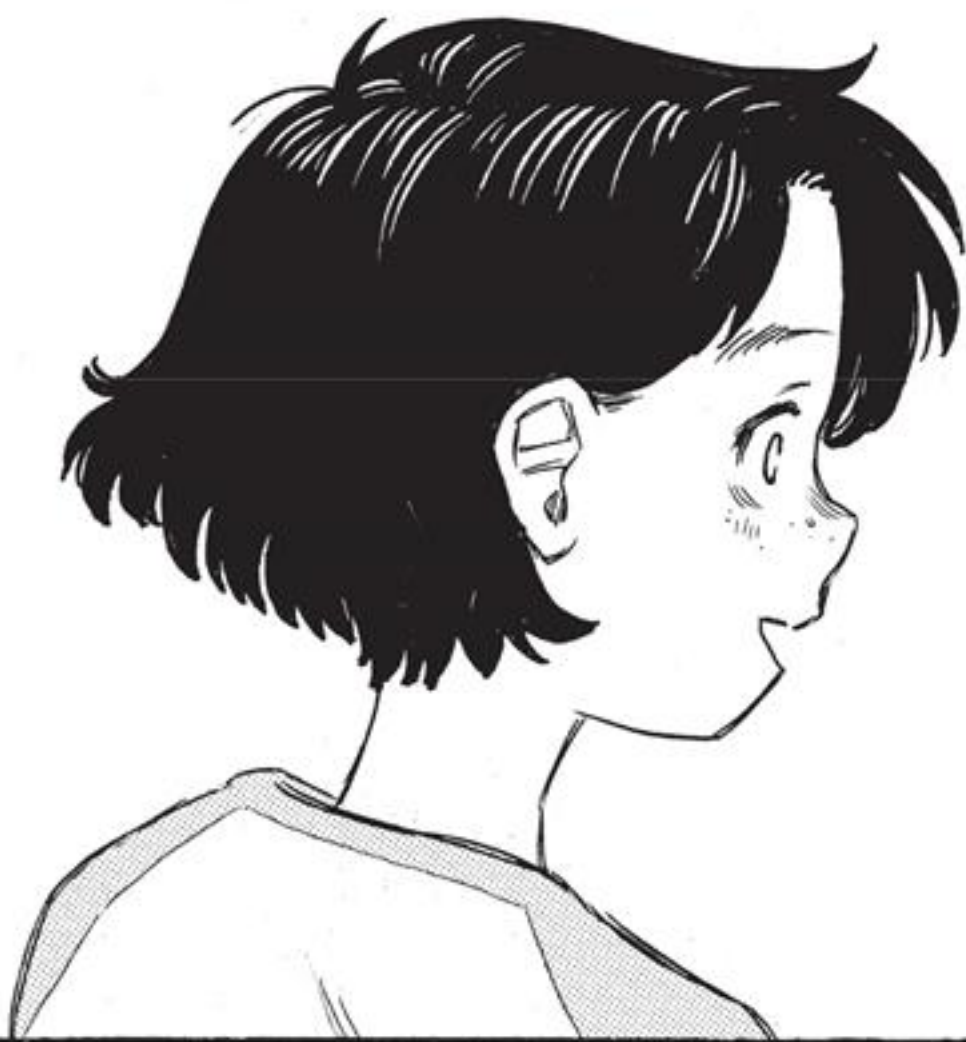
AND I'LL
STAY WITH
SHOKO ALL
DAY LONG...

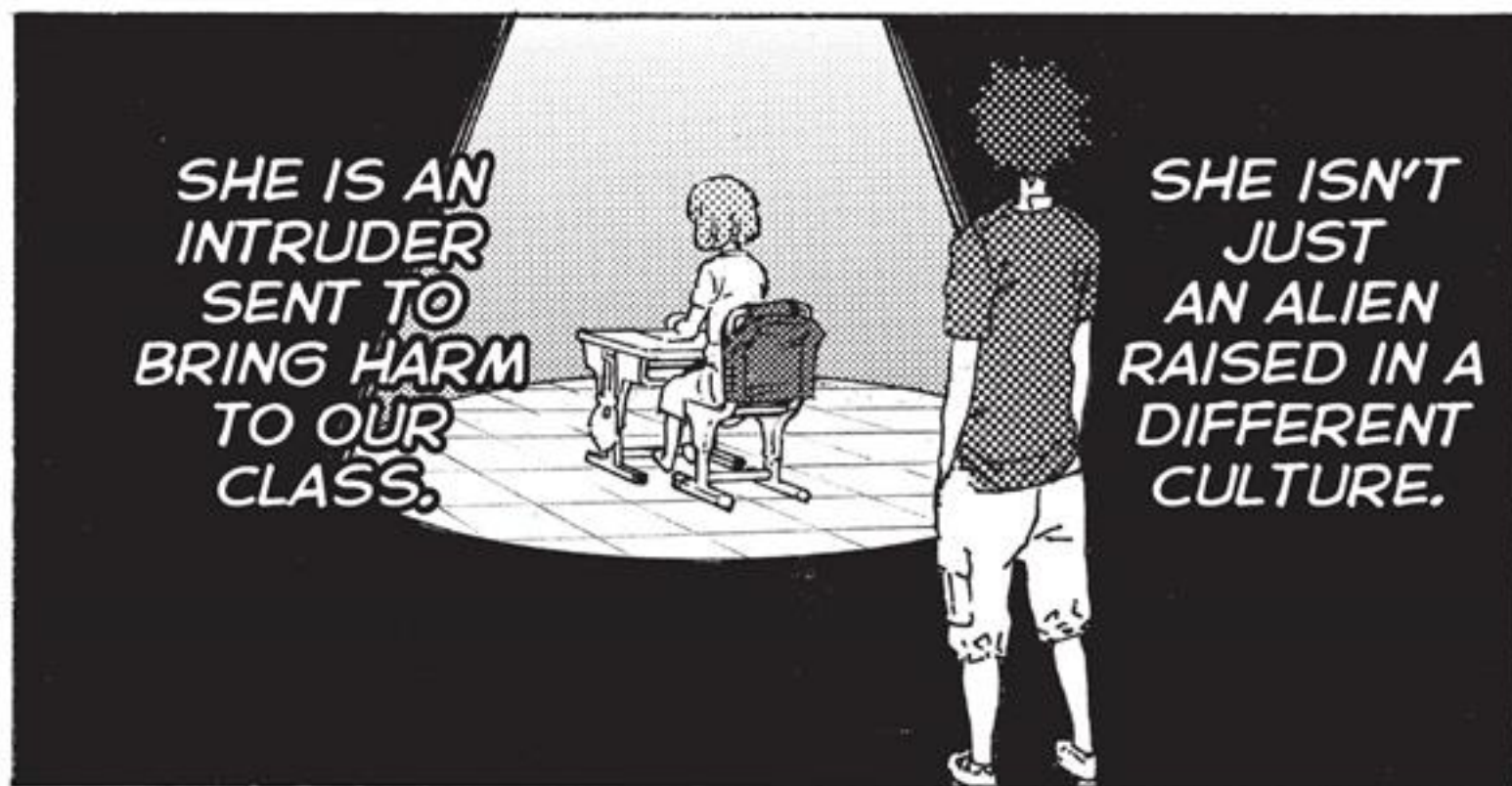






What's wrong?



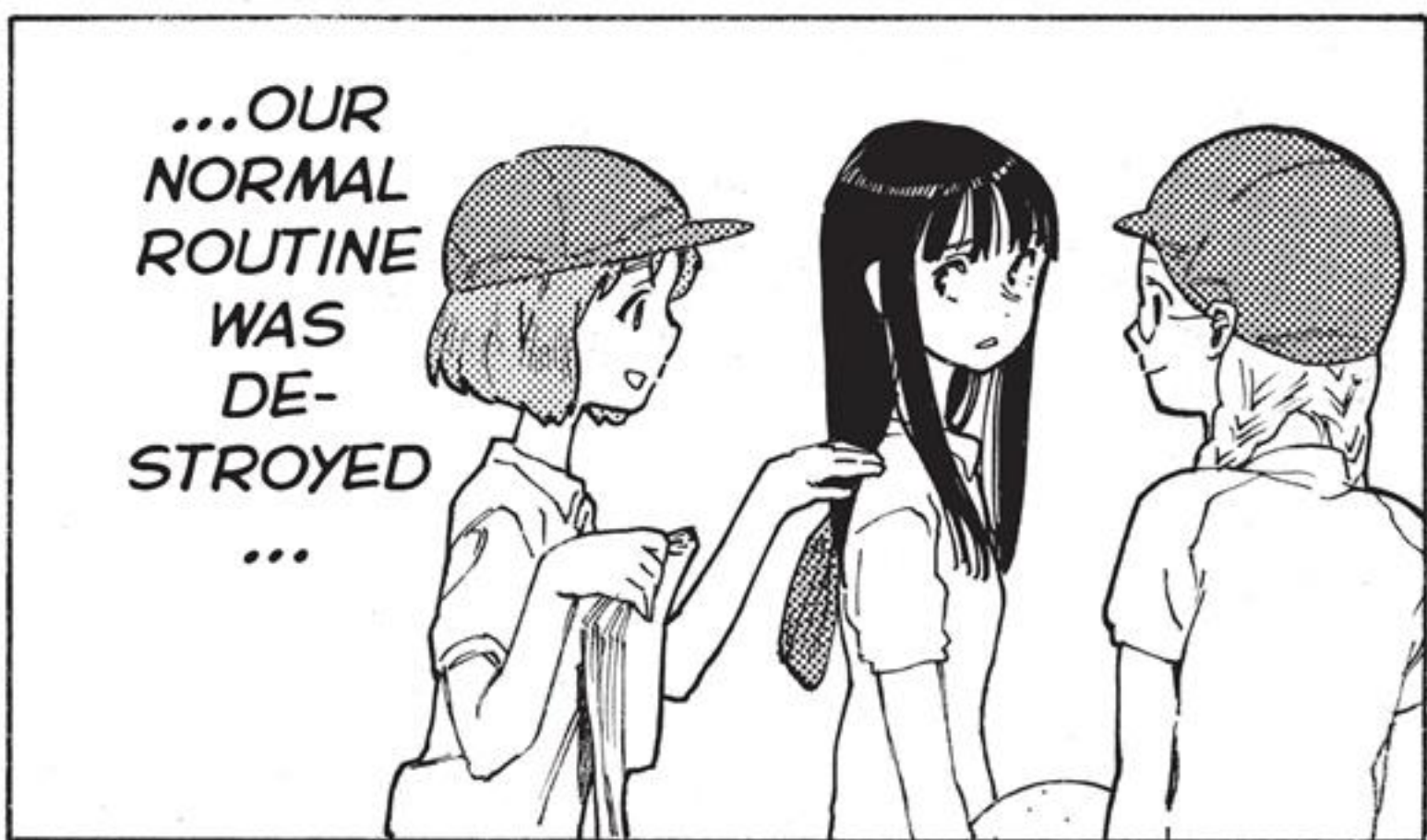


SHE IS AN
INTRUDER
SENT TO
BRING HARM
TO OUR
CLASS.

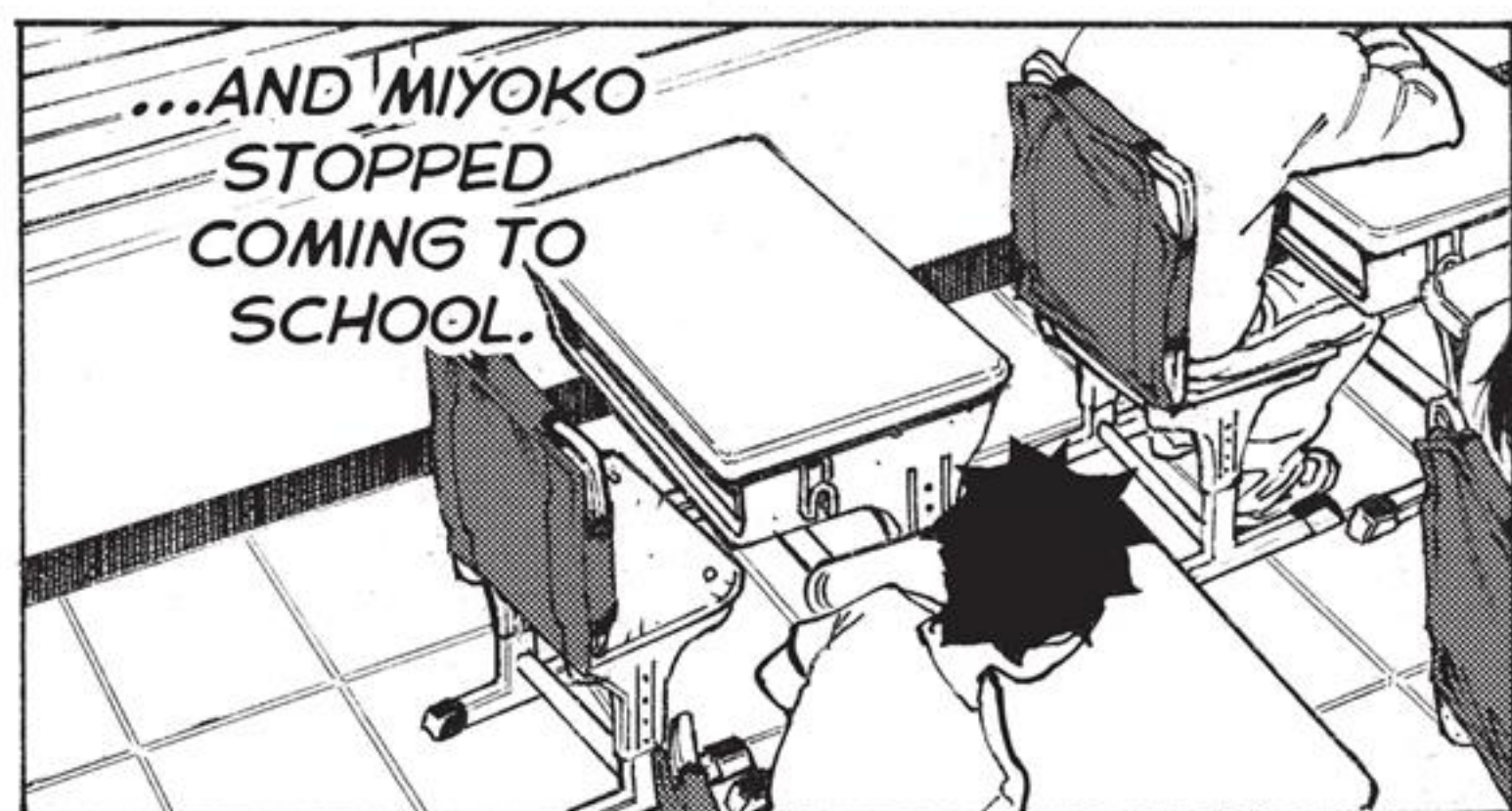
SHE ISN'T
JUST
AN ALIEN
RAISED IN A
DIFFERENT
CULTURE.



BECAUSE
OF HER,
THE CHOIR
COMPETITION
WAS A TOTAL
BUST...



...OUR
NORMAL
ROUTINE
WAS
DE-
STROYED
...



...AND MIYOKO
STOPPED
COMING TO
SCHOOL.

I THINK I'VE
FIGURED OUT...

...SHOKO
NISHIMIYA'S TRUE
IDENTITY...





**BUT IS
NISHI-
MIYA
AWARE
OF THIS
FACT?**



**LOOKS
LIKE
FUN!**

**MAN,
THIS IS
REALLY
STUPID,
SHOYA.**

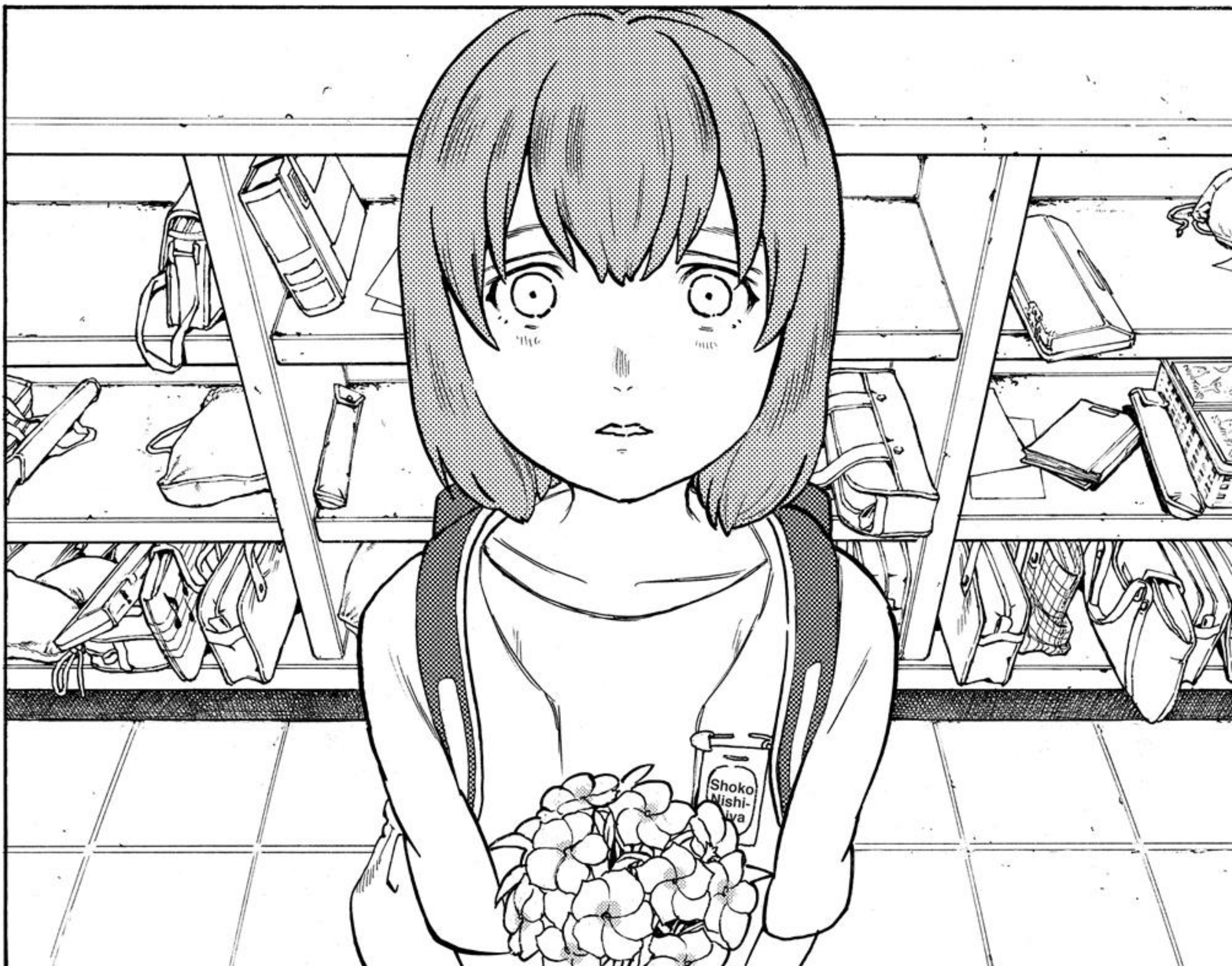
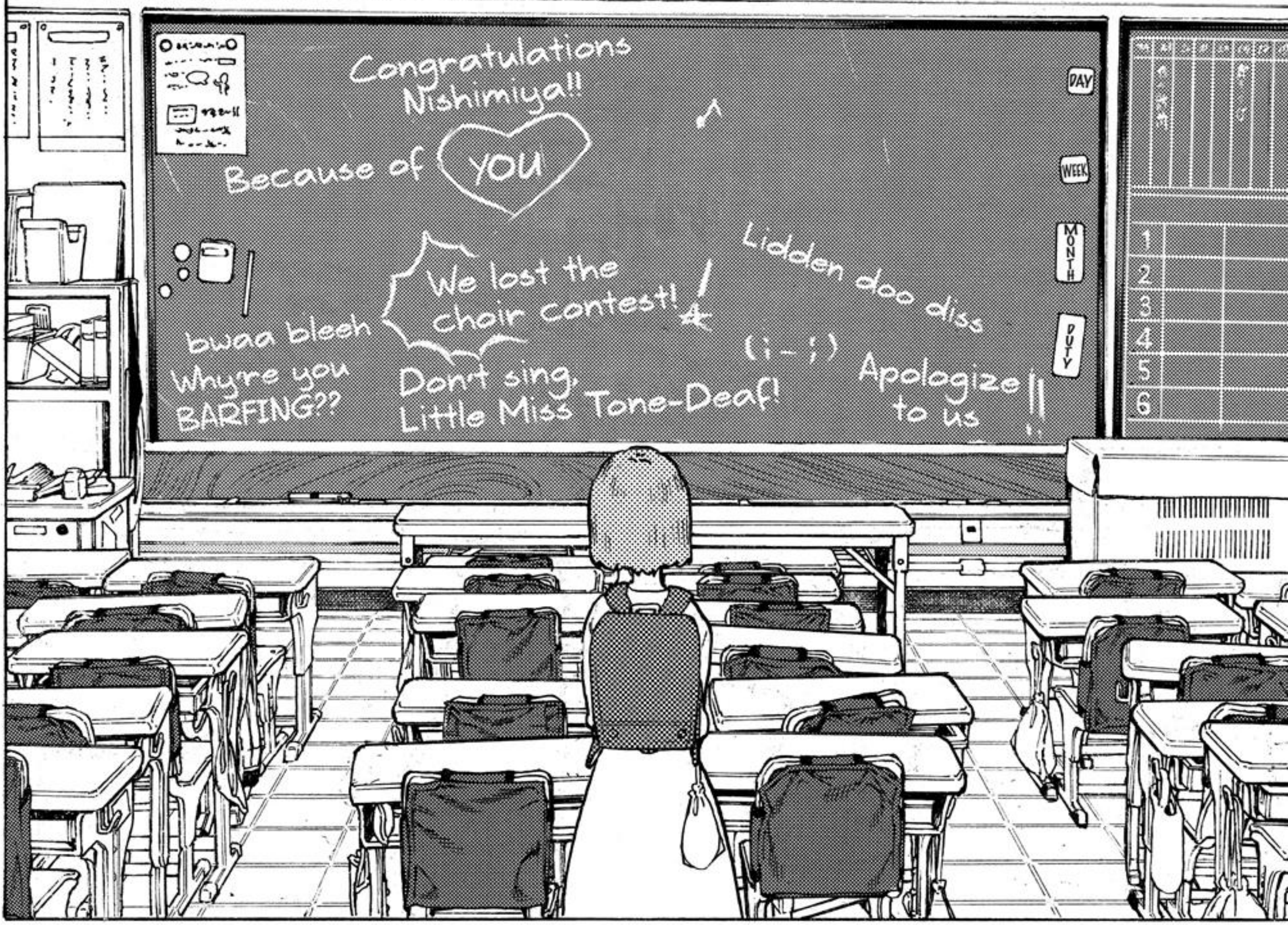
**WHEN YOU
GET IN
TROUBLE,
I HAD
NOTHING TO
DO WITH
THIS!**

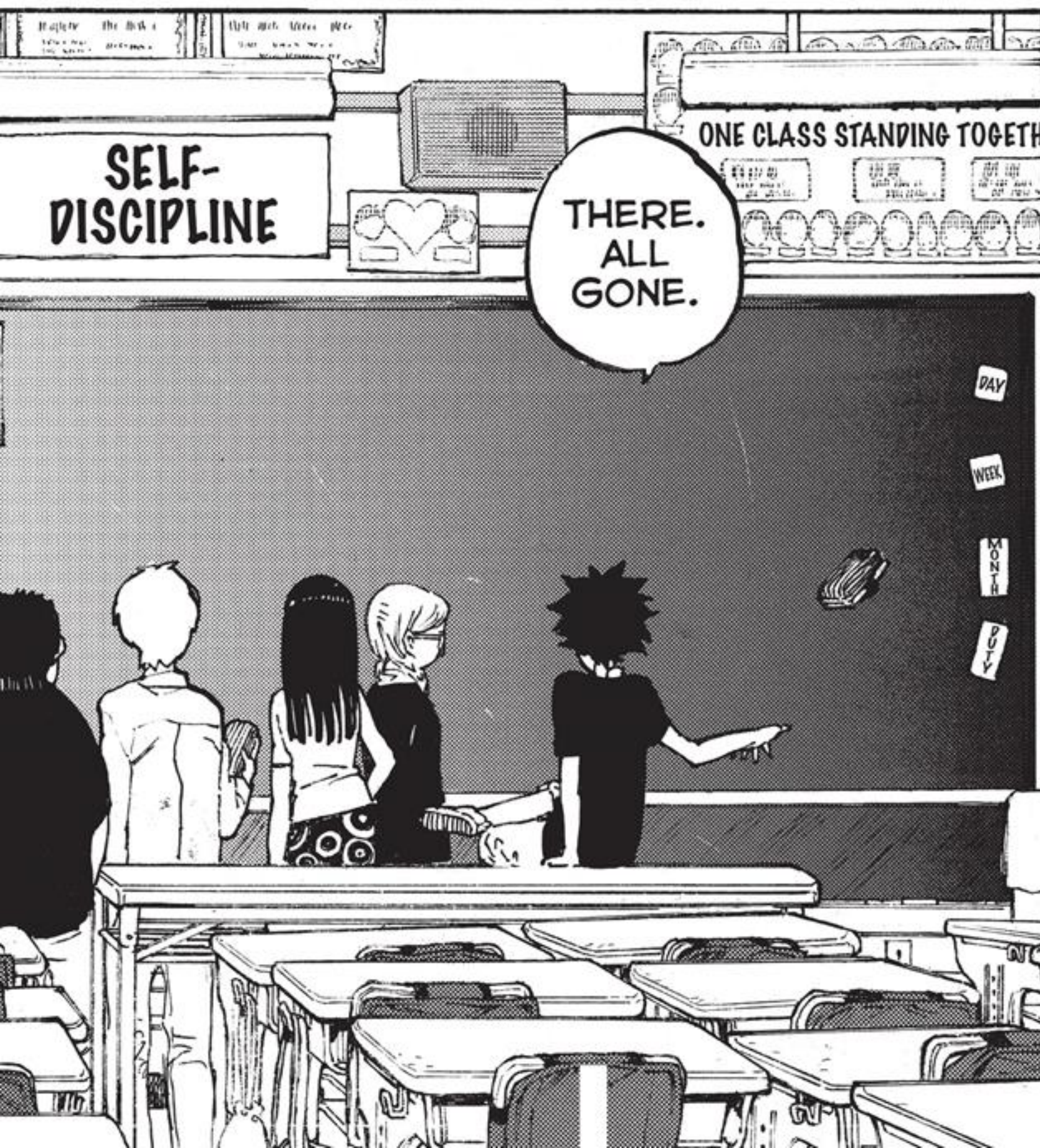
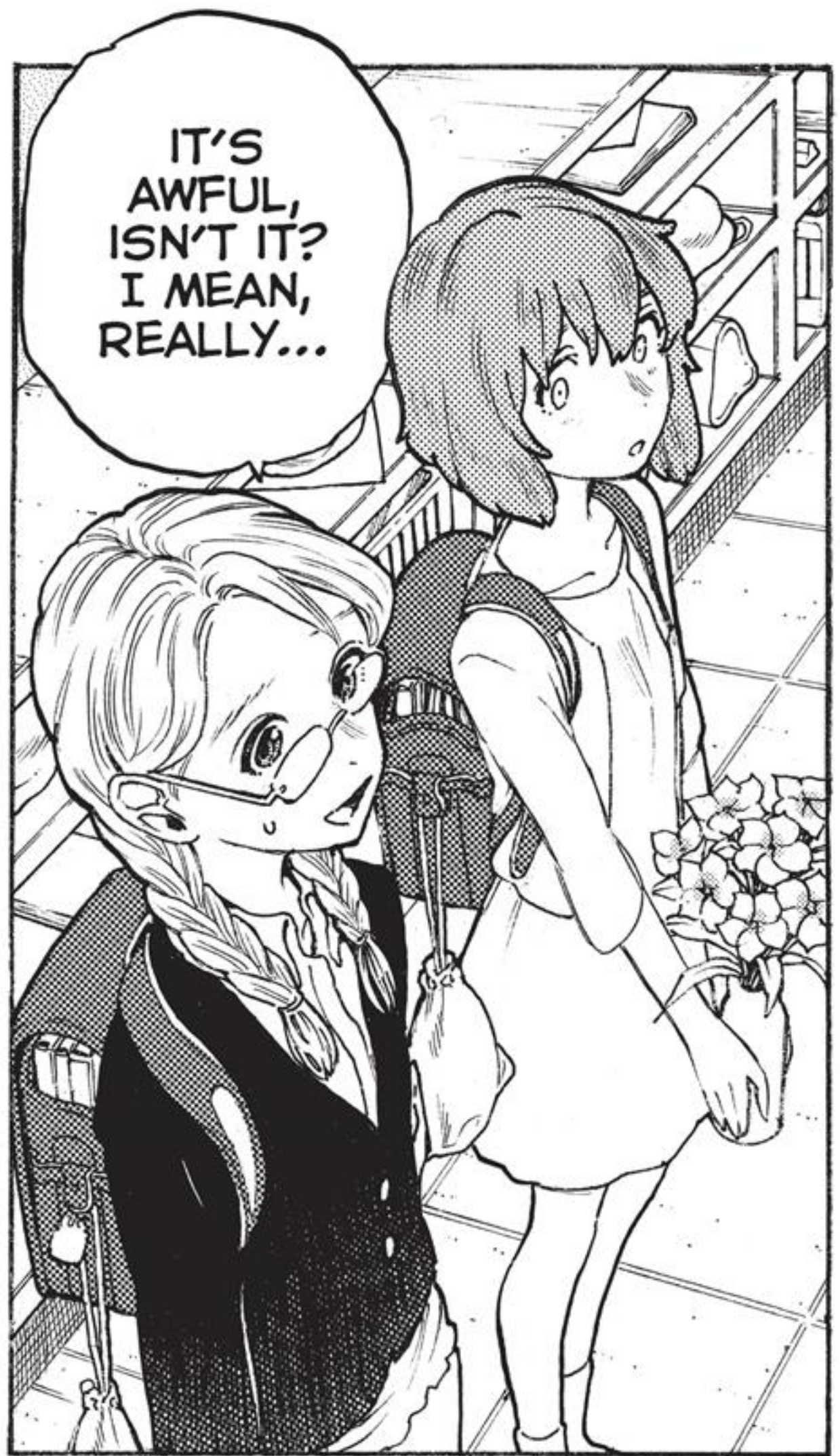
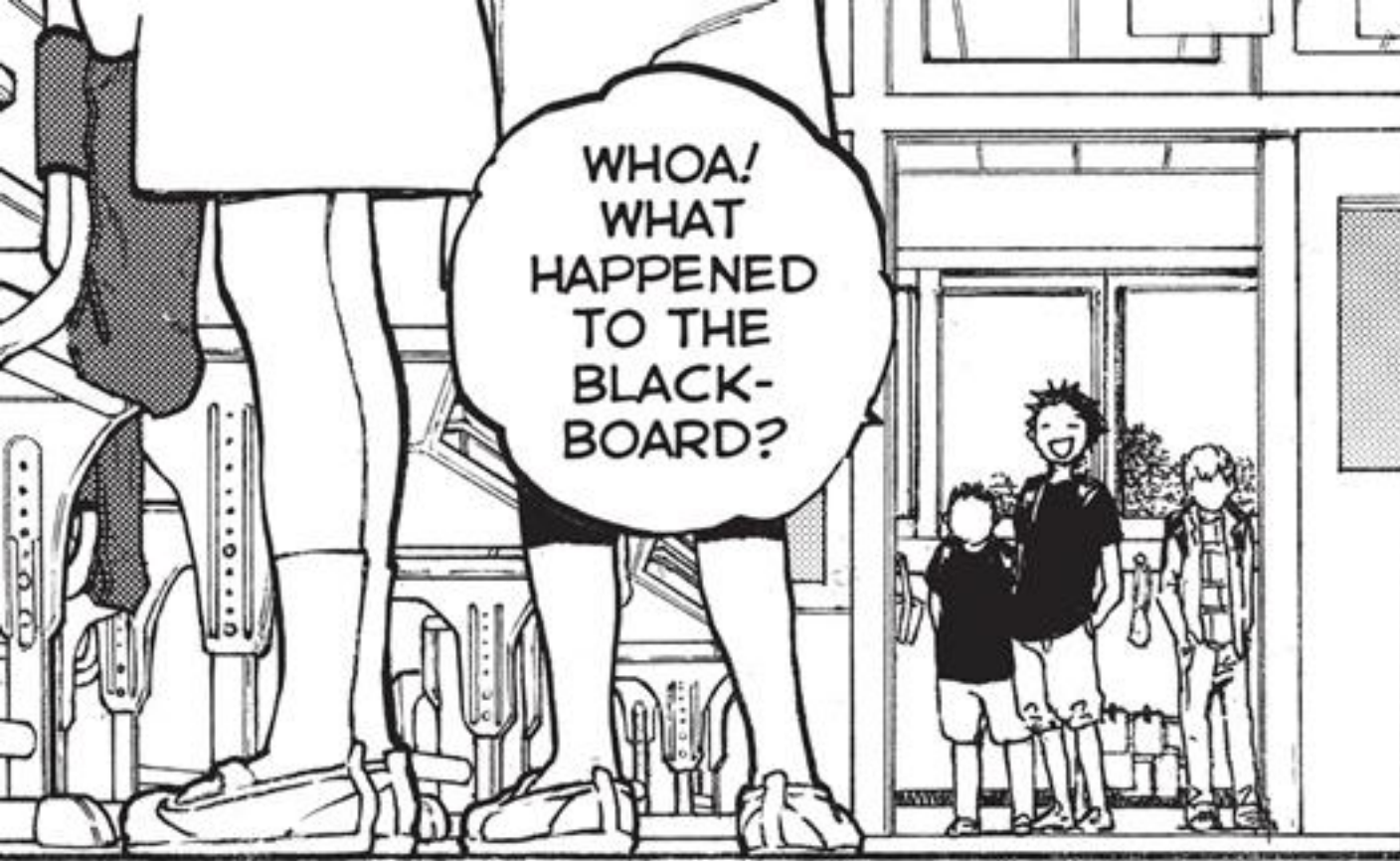
**LET
ME
HELP!**

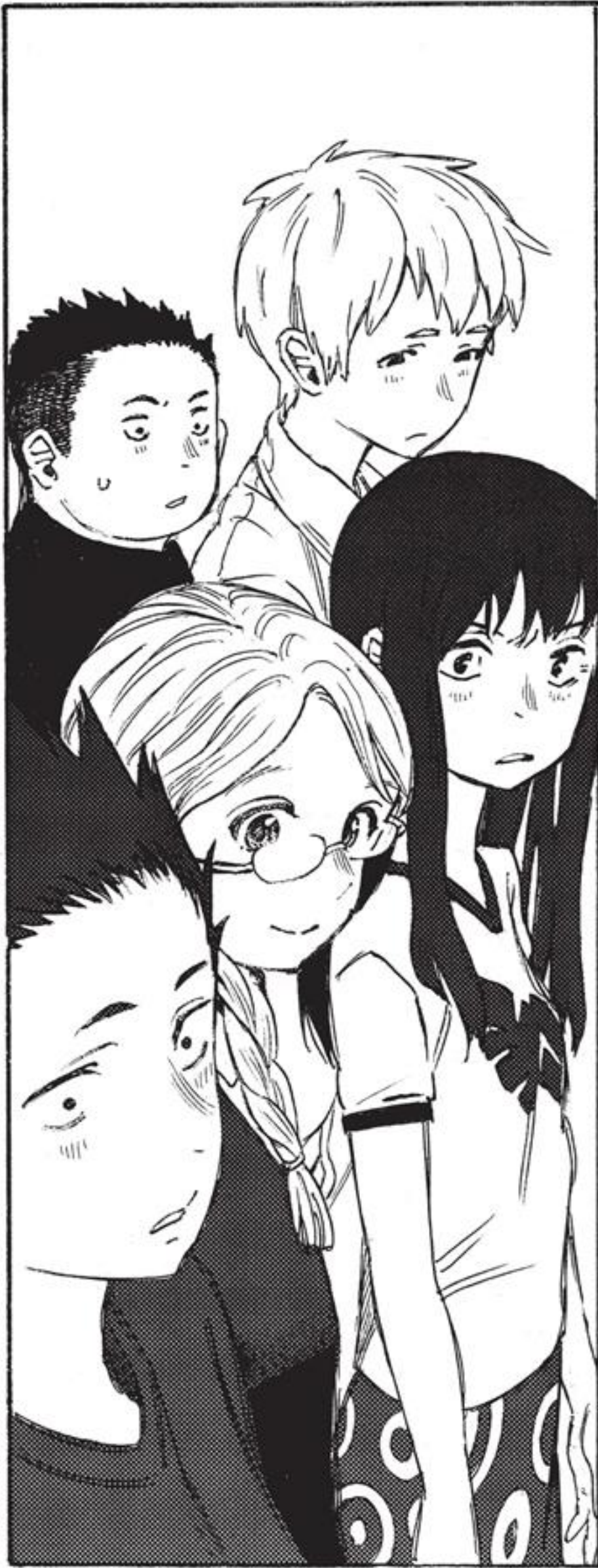


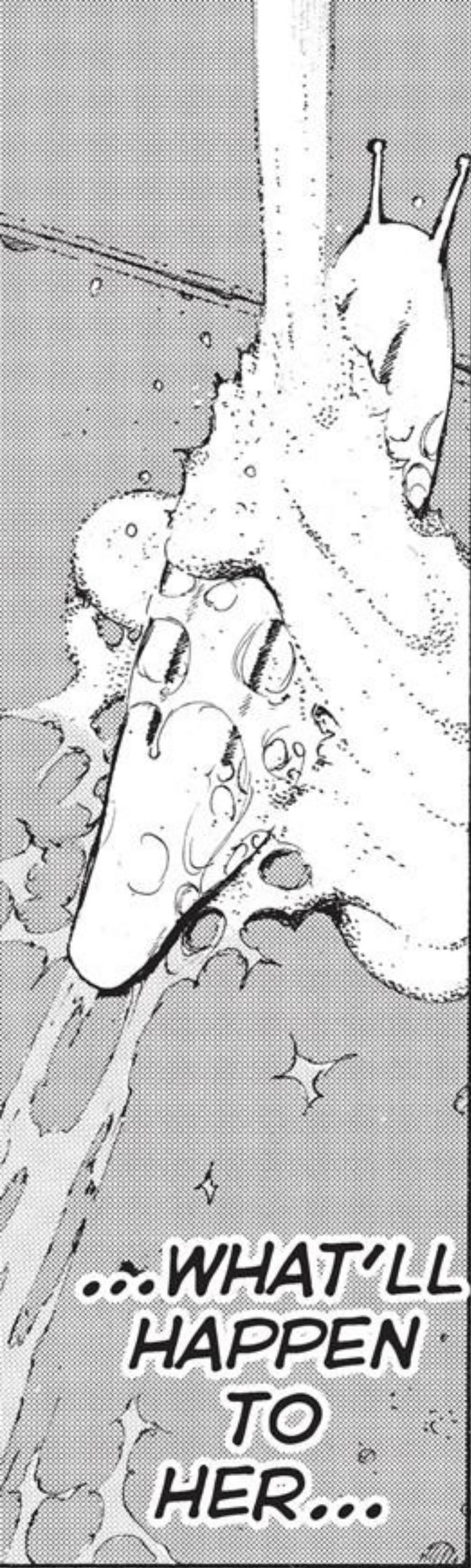
**...NO MATTER
WHAT THE
METHOD...**

**...I MUST
INFORM
HER OF THE
TRUTH.**









...WHAT'LL
HAPPEN
TO
HER...



HHHHH

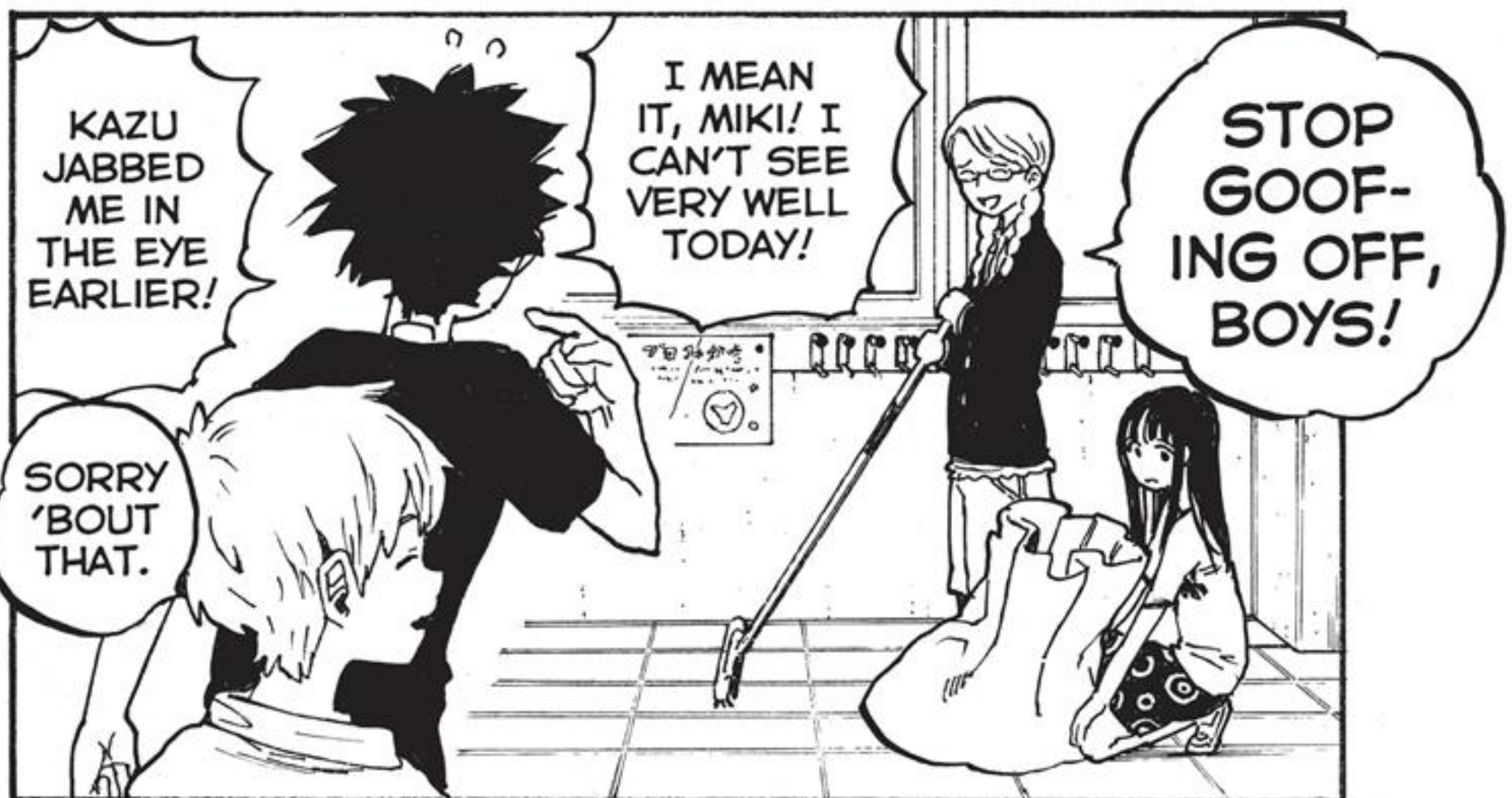
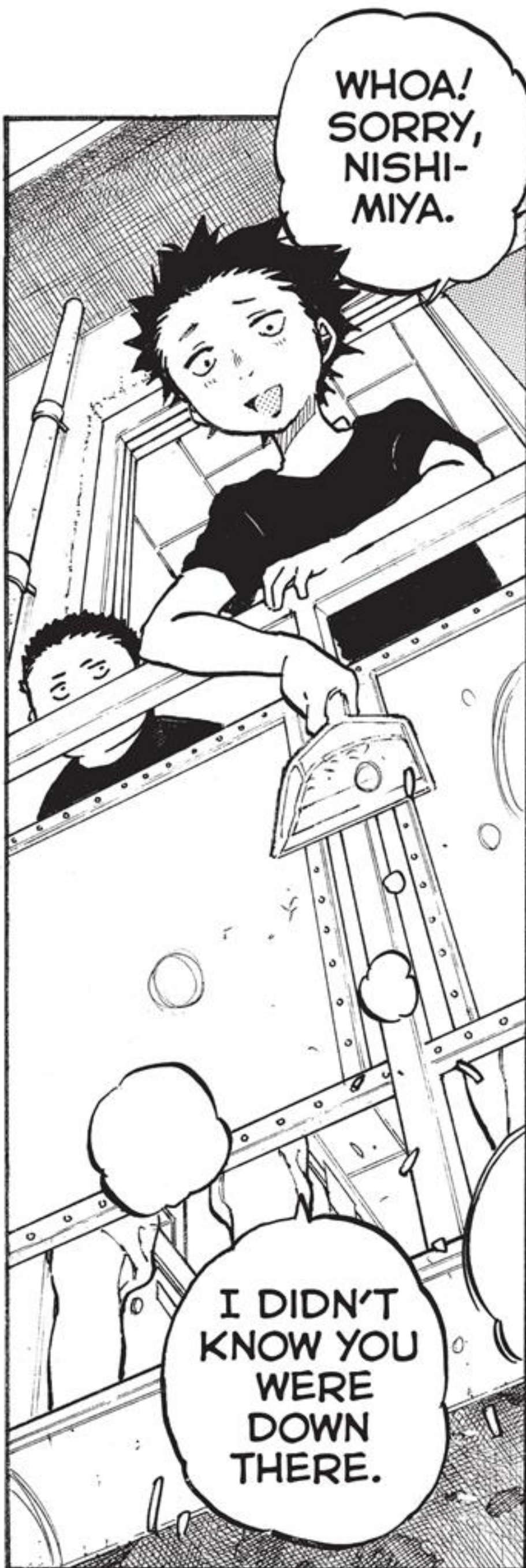
I WANNA
KNOW...



...IF I
KEEP
THIS
UP...



WELL,
NOW
SHE'S
GOT
MY
ATTEN-
TION!



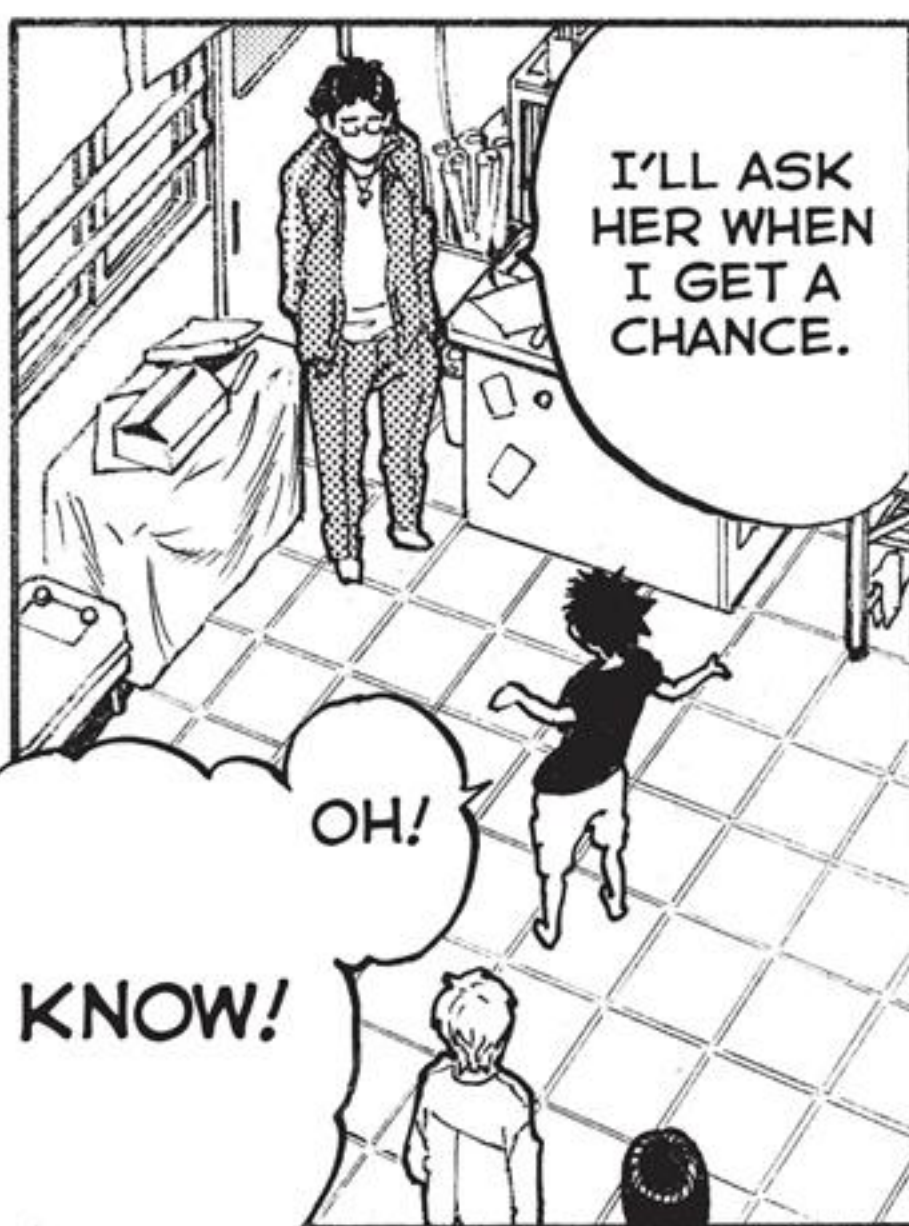


DIDN'T
I, NISHI-
MIYA?!



I AL-
READY
DID!

SAY
YOU'RE
SORRY.



I'LL ASK
HER WHEN
I GET A
CHANCE.

OH!

I KNOW!



APOLO-
GIZE
TO HER
LATER.

SEE?

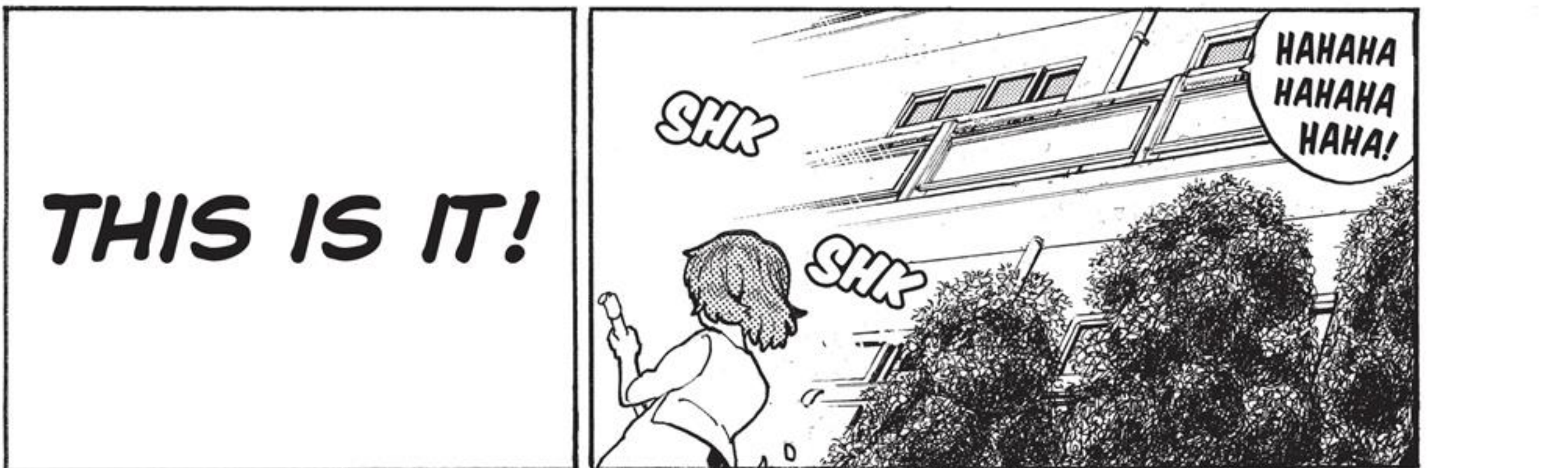
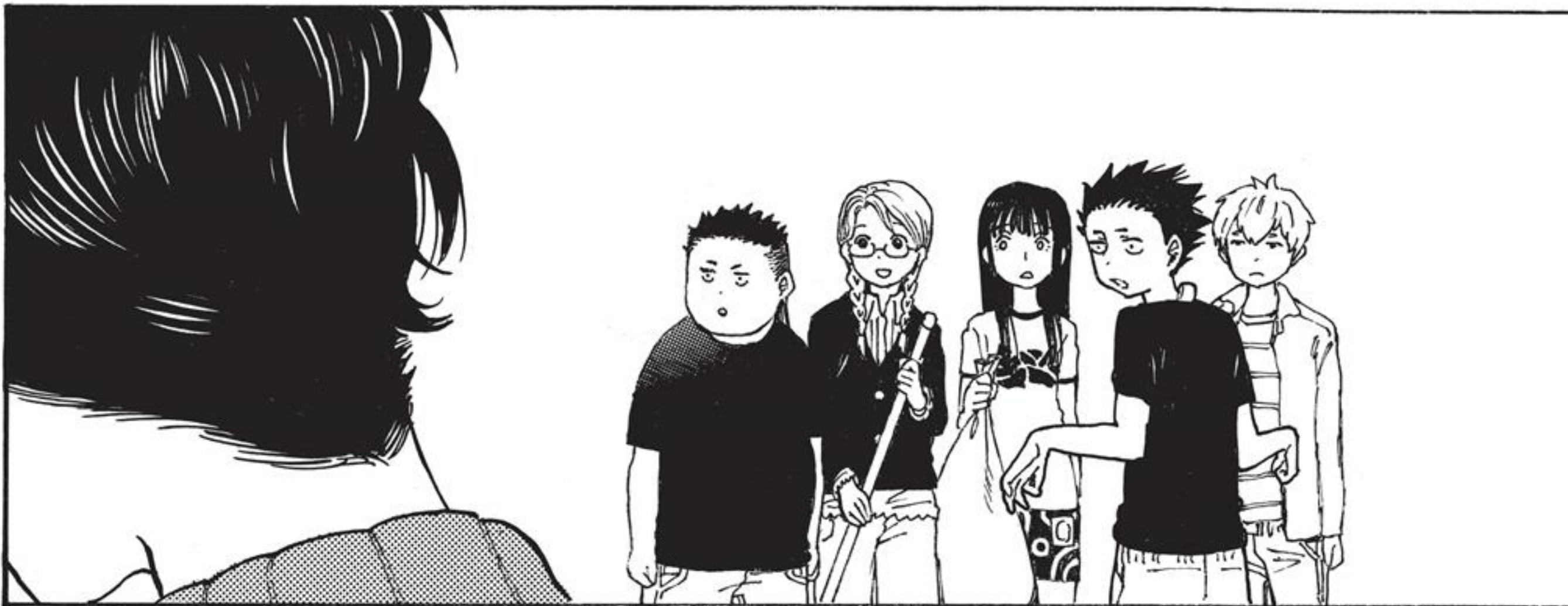
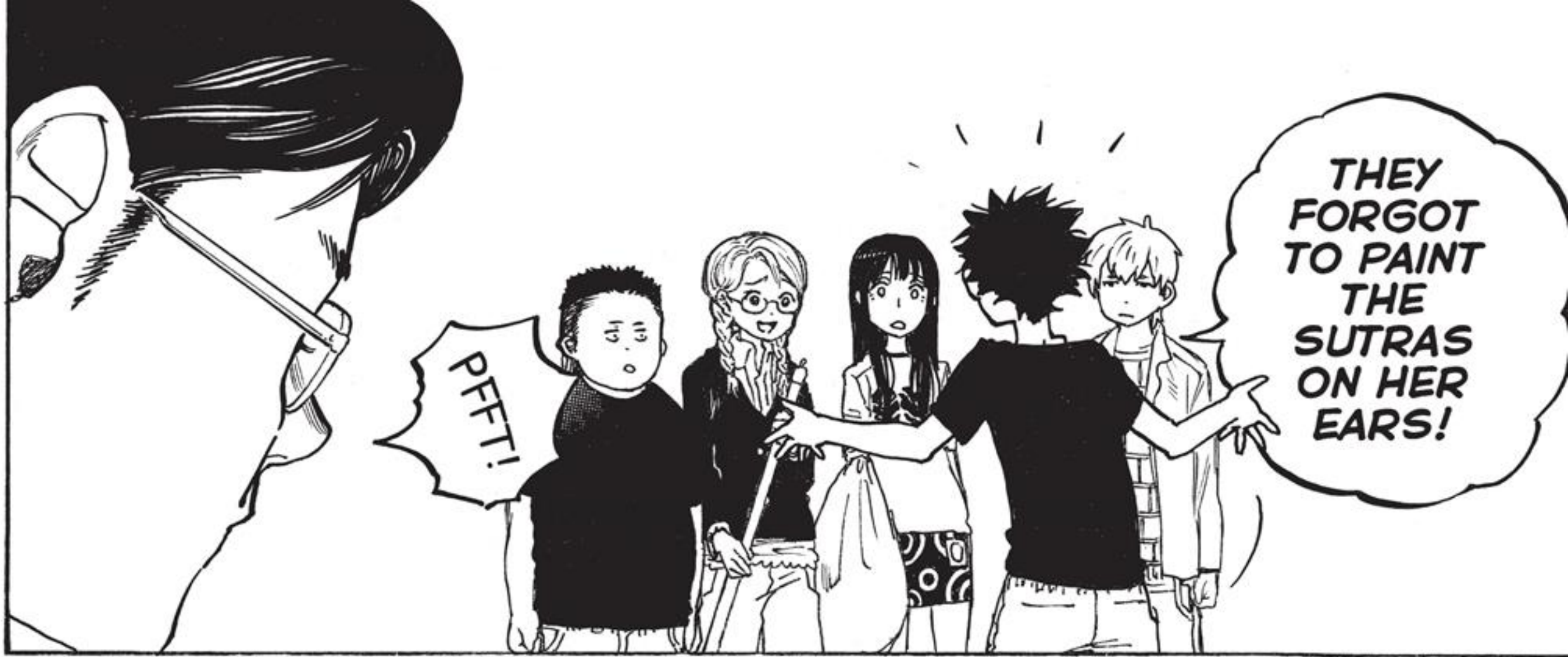


WHAP



MR. TAKEUCHI!
WHY CAN'T
SHOKO
HEAR,
ANYWAY?

IT'S
SUCH
A PAIN,
HUH?



*A LEGENDARY MINSTREL WHO WAS FORCED TO PLAY FOR EVIL SPIRITS. HIS FRIEND, A PRIEST, PAINTED HOICHI'S BODY WITH SUTRAS TO WARD OFF THE SPIRITS BUT FORGOT TO PAINT HIS EARS. WHEN THE SPIRITS CAME FOR THE NIGHTLY PERFORMANCE, HIS EARS WERE THE ONLY PART OF HIS BODY THEY COULD SEE, SO THEY RIPPED THEM OFF.

...AND
DOODLE ON
CATS.



I THROW
OFF ANT
TRAILS...



WHEN I SEE
A PIGEON, I
CHASE IT.



WHEN I SEE
A SLUG, I
POUR SALT
ON IT.



...AND
DOODLE ON HER
STUFF.



...THROW HER
OFF TRACK...



...CHASE
HER...



SO I'LL
POUR WATER
ON HER...



THIS IS WHAT...

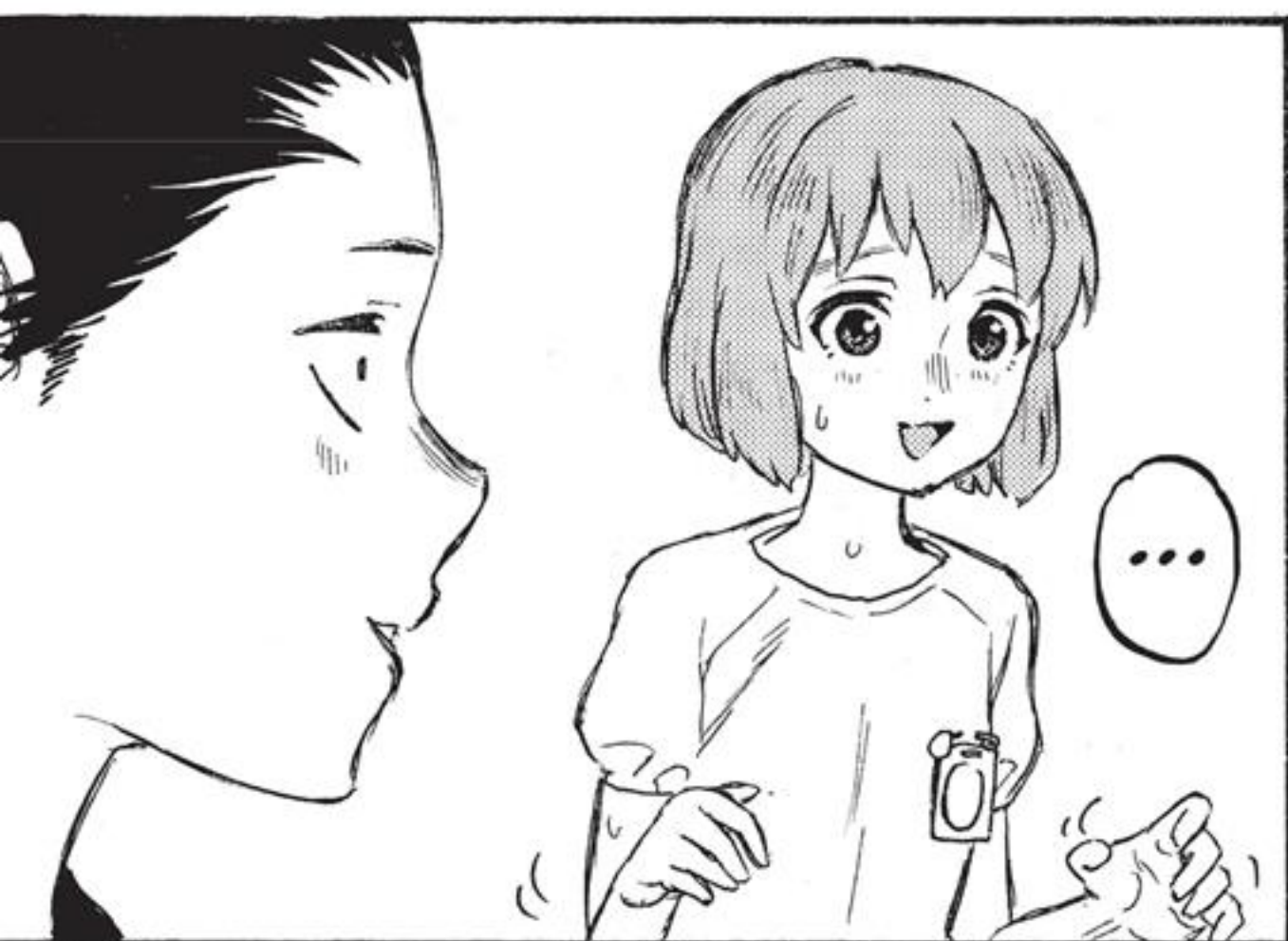


...NISHIMIYA'S MEANT FOR!!



HEY.

LEMME
SEE THIS
FOR A
MINUTE.



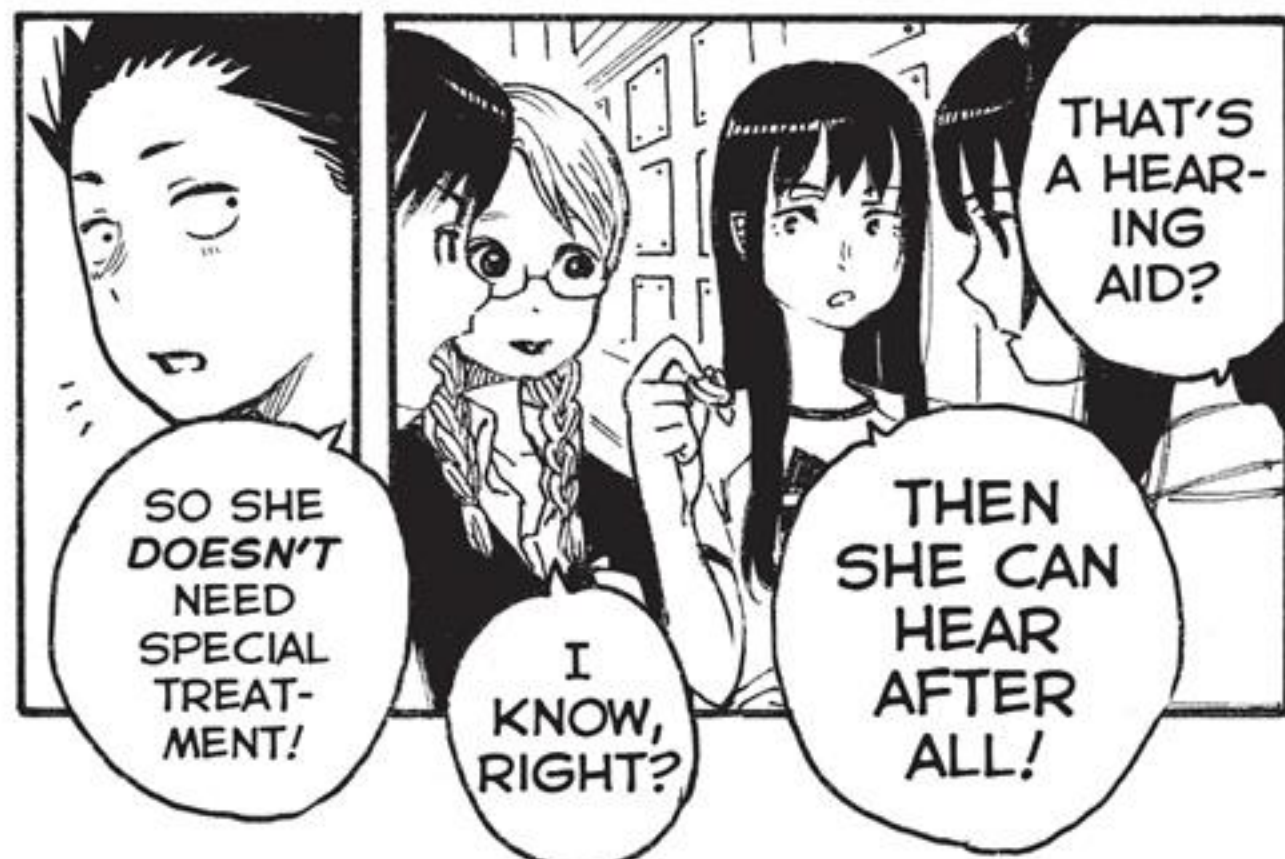
THIS
IS IT,
RIGHT?

?!



LEMME
SEE
THAT.

HERE
YOU
GO.



THAT'S
A HEAR-
ING
AID?

THEN
SHE CAN
HEAR
AFTER
ALL!

I
KNOW,
RIGHT?

SO SHE
DOESN'T
NEED
SPECIAL
TREAT-
MENT!





